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THE TIMES

TUESDAY JUNE 24 1986

25p

35 years' jail for 'inhuman' IRA bomber

Patrick Magee, the Provisional IRA terrorist who planted the Brighton bomb, yesterday stood in the dock at the Central Criminal Court to hear himself branded "a man of exceptional cruelty and inhumanity" as a judge sentenced him to a recommended minimum of 35 years in prison.



Magee: 35-year sentence

Magee, aged 35, from Belfast, was given a total of eight life sentences by Mr Justice Boreham after being convicted on seven counts from the Brighton bombing in October 1984 and one count concerning an IRA plan to bomb 16 targets in London and coastal resorts last summer.

The Brighton bombing was described by the judge as "horrifying" but a few months later Magee had been planning the "even more hideous" resort campaign. The judge told Magee, who was clutching the rail of the dock, flanked by prison officers, that he believed he enjoyed terrorist activities.

riposte. One senior Scotland Yard officer said: "They will try something to reinforce the fact that Magee is not the only person who can operate."

The judge said he was not concerned with Magee's motives. "I am satisfied that you enjoy terrorism. There is nothing that can mitigate, certainly nothing that can excuse that outrage."

The judge added that the crimes were of exceptional gravity. It was a plot to bring about "the most hideous catalogue of violence against innocent human beings. You are a man of exceptional cruelty and inhumanity, and as I have said you enjoy terrorist activities."



Mrs Sheila McDonnell and Mrs Eileen Magee chanting Republican slogans as they waved their husbands off to begin life sentences yesterday. (Photograph: Stuart Nicol)

Whitehall hint of backing for EEC sanctions

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, is to meet Mr Oliver Tambo, acting head of the African National Congress, tomorrow.

Another journalist has been ordered out of South Africa. Mr Richard Manning of Newsweek has until Thursday to make representations against the order.

Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, said yesterday that South Africa was in the "evil grip" of the security forces.

He and his colleagues did not condone terrorist acts but the South African security forces carried out more terrorism than the ANC.

Leading article 17

finding it necessary to talk to terrorists," he said. "The Government has no place in talking to people who are unashamed bombers and want to see the violent overthrow of the South African Government."

Graduates prefer City jobs 13 die as crowded van crosses M4

Police are to investigate whether drugs or drink were involved in the M4 crash yesterday in which 13 people were killed when a heavily overloaded transit van carrying fans from a pop festival crossed the central crash barrier.

A family of four who died in their estate car were named last night by police as Mr John von Kotze, aged 57, director of a film company in Cirencester, Gloucestershire, his wife Elizabeth, aged 46, and two of their daughters, aged 16 and Leonie, aged 10, all of High Street, Sherston, Wiltshire.

Those who arrived at the scene of the crash were sickened by the sight. Bodies were strewn over the motorway and some victims were screaming in agony.

Portugal expels two Russians. Lisbon (Reuters, AP) - Portugal yesterday ordered the expulsion of two Soviet Embassy officials for alleged acts against national security and interfering in Portuguese internal affairs, the Foreign Ministry said.

England beaten by India. England lost the second Test match - and the series - to India at Headingley yesterday, their seventh successive Test defeat.

Tomorrow

Continental divide. Can the magic of Maradona prevent an all-European World Cup final? David Miller and Stuart Jones preview the semi-finals.

Portfolio. The £4,000 prize in yesterday's Times Portfolio Gold competition was won outright by Dr W Taylor, of Tyne-mouth, Tyne and Wear.

Stormont riot. Police baton-charged hundreds of "loyalists" on the steps of Stormont as rebel Unionists defied Parliament with a sit-in in the Northern Ireland Assembly. Page 2.

Court drama. The man accused of murdering Leoni Keating, aged three, who disappeared from a Great Yarmouth caravan site last September, collapsed in court at Ipswich. Page 3.

Actor dies. Nigel Stock, the actor best known for his television portrayal of Dr Watson in the Sherlock Holmes series, died aged 66. Obituary, page 18.

On This Day. In 1807 the practice of criticizing theatrical productions was in its infancy. The Times of June 24 that year provided a spectacular example of the early art of vitriol. Page 17.

Table with 2 columns: Page number and Section title. Includes Home News, Overseas, Sports, etc.

Married women to get care allowance

The Government yesterday yielded to campaigners for invalid care allowances to be paid to up to 70,000 married women caring for disabled people at home, the day before a judgement from the European Court of Justice was expected to demand the change.

The change will quadruple the net cost of paying the £23 allowance from £15 million to about £55 million, but the Treasury has accepted that additional resources should be provided to meet it, and that the funds should not have to be found out of existing welfare budgets.

Bedford to axe 1,700

Bedford Trucks, the General Motors van and lorry business in Britain, yesterday announced 1,700 job losses at its Dunstable and Luton factories.

Tennis players will not be punished for drugs. chairman of the Men's International Professional Tennis Council, said that a player would only be suspended if he refused to be tested or treated or if he were positive on three different occasions.

That comes of playing on grass. A cartoon illustration showing a tennis ball on grass with a speech bubble saying "That comes of playing on grass."

Cabinet to consider aid plan. The Government's line in advance of the European Council summit in The Hague on Thursday and Friday will be discussed in detail today by a meeting of the Cabinet's overseas and defence committee.

Mr Terry Waite after arriving at Heathrow yesterday. Mr Oliver Tambo: meeting at Foreign Office today.

Advertisement for UK Finance loans. "NOTHING TO REPAY FOR UP TO 6 MONTHS ONLY WITH A UK LOAN". Includes details of interest rates and terms.

after defe

Inner-city rebuilding projects will provide work for local blacks

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Building contractors applying for Government work in the inner cities are to be expected to take on local labour.

In a policy aimed particularly at tackling unemployment among blacks and Asians, Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Minister for Employment, is seeking a series of "gentlemen's agreements" with developers taking contracts in the eight task force areas set up by the Government in its inner-city initiative four months ago.

Although that does not mean legally enforced employment quotas, the clear implication is that firms unwilling to co-operate with the Government will be less likely to get the contracts.

The move, expected to be highly controversial among some Tory backbenchers opposed to positive discrimination or the American-style "contract compliance", was foreshadowed by Mr Clarke in a speech yesterday in Birmingham, where the Handsworth district is one of the chosen task force areas.

He also outlined other proposals under which housing associations and other inner-city bodies are to be encouraged to form co-operative groups of building workers to

take on contracts themselves for the improvement of the more run-down parts of their districts; and the task forces will be working with private enterprise agencies and skill training facilities.

Mr Clarke, speaking to Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, said: "We must do a great deal more to ensure that future urban development projects in these inner-city areas produce more work opportunities and skilled training for their inhabitants."

When it was put to Mr Clarke in a BBC radio interview that his proposals sounded like positive discrimination, he said: "Positive action not positive discrimination."

While he was opposed to legal quotas he was in favour of steps that ensured that residents of deprived neighbourhoods were not excluded from employment on grounds of race.

He said in Birmingham that he hoped an agreement would soon be reached with a major contractor to employ local labour in the Handsworth task force area. He also hoped eventually to take the approach into building and refurbishment work in the other areas: in Leeds, Manchester,



Brushing her Auburn hair and admiring her reflection, this photograph of a young Miss Sarah Ferguson comes from the album of Miss Ritva Rusi, her former Finnish nanny, and was taken in 1961.



Looking thoughtful, Miss Ferguson poses for a photograph with Miss Rusi, who described her as a "lively little girl".

Lesson in British TV satire for Moscow

Soviet Union film and television producers are to be treated to an unusual course in satirizing national politicians this week, courtesy of the creators of *Spitting Image* (Gavin Bell writes).

A selection of sketches from the Central Television series will be among more than 50 programmes to be shown at the Union of Cinematographers in Moscow during a five-day season of British television from all channels.

Central TV said the selection included "some Russian material". The decision whether to select scenes such as Mr Gorbachev glowing from the after-effects of Chernobyl has been entrusted to the The Great Britain-USSR Association to a British media specialist, who flew to Moscow yesterday taking the secret of his choice with him.

Leading article, page 17

Neutrons to fight airline terrorism

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

A breakthrough in the fight against airline terrorists will be in operation at selected airports next year, technical experts of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) disclosed in Geneva yesterday.

Known as the thermal neutron activator, it will bombard suspect items, such as passenger baggage, with neutrons to set up a chemical reaction if nitrogen (used in most explosives) is present.

It is being developed in the United States under a \$10 million research grant from the Federal Aviation Administration in association with the Inter-Governmental Civil Aviation Organization based in Montreal.

It should be available for use at airports in portable form and could be a major breakthrough, Mr Rodney Wallis, IATA's head of security, said.

Tougher controls are also being imposed by governments on "ramp" staff who work behind the scenes at airports.

Catering and cleaning staff who have access to aircraft "on the ramp" are known to have been involved in smuggling weapons and explosives on to aircraft, Mr Wallis said.

Stricter enforcement of the restriction to one item of hand baggage only, and purchase of duty-free goods on arrival rather than departure at airports are other measures being considered, IATA says.

While the risk of terrorism will always be present, substantial progress has been made in the past 20 years, Mr Wallis said.

In 1970, possibly the peak year for terrorism with three violent acts involving the Palestine liberation movement alone, terrorist actions were running at 70 to 80 a year. That had been reduced to 20 to 25 a year, which was not exceeded last year in spite of media attention.

Turkey trial

William Friary, aged 18, of Drayton Road, Harlesden, London, and his brother James, aged 21, a Civil Servant, of Princess Anne Terrace, London, Norfolk, were remanded in custody for seven days by Norwich magistrates yesterday, charged with demanding more than £50,000 with messages from Mr Bernard Matthews, the Norfolk turkey producer.

Denby charge

Philip Calaghan, aged 28, unemployed, of British Street, Bow, east London, accused of conspiracy concerning an incident involving Mr Peter Denby, a solicitor, was yesterday remanded in custody for a week. Catherine Laporte, a waitress aged 25, was remanded on bail until July 21 on a similar charge at Bow Street Magistrates' Court yesterday.

Record delay

Bad weather yesterday frustrated Mr Richard Branson's hopes of making a new attempt on the transatlantic Blue Bird and speed record. Mr Branson's new £15 million boat, Virgin Atlantic Challenger II, was due to set off from Ambrose Light, New York, at 6am today.

Girl murder

The body of an Army officer's daughter was found yesterday on the edge of one of Britain's biggest Army camps. Ennie Harrison, aged 18, a waitress, died a quarter of a mile from her parents' home at Caterick Garrison, North Yorkshire. She had been sexually assaulted.

Aerosol peril

Two aerosol products sold in London and the South-east are dangerous, the Department of Health said yesterday. The 'Boulton' air freshener and 'Hada' fly spray produce a massive jet of flame when ignited. They should be emptied in the open air and thrown away.

Print arrests

Seven people were arrested for public order offences during a demonstration at the News International plant at Wapping, east London, yesterday. A police spokesman said a crowd of about 600 divided into three groups, gathered outside the plant, but dispersed at midday.

Britannia refit

The Royal Yacht Britannia is to have an extensive refit next year at Devonport naval dockyard, where workers last week signed a no-strike agreement to try to secure the contract.

Vote stops rates bills for poor

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent

Government plans to make the poor and unemployed pay rates were left in tatters last night after a serious defeat in the House of Lords spearheaded by the Bishop of Durham.

A Labour amendment to the Social Security Bill allowing full rate rebates to housing benefit claimants was passed by 89 votes to 86.

The decision means that the Government will have to reconsider its plans to make the poorest people pay a minimum of 20 per cent of their rates bill.

The controversial rates payment plan was intended by ministers to prevent the election of high spending local authorities.

But the Bishop of Durham, the Right Rev David Jenkins, said: "It does seem that many measures in this Bill are designed to make life more cruel for people who are suffering already."

Lady Jeger, the Labour peer who moved the successful amendment, said the government plans were disgraceful.

Earlier the Government suffered a 29-vote defeat when peers agreed to give financial protection to newly-disabled people and the handicapped already claiming additional payments until the Government's new income support scheme starts in 1988.

Parliament, page 4

Arbitration will cut costly cases

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Many would-be litigants will be able to avoid expensive court proceedings and turn instead to an arbitrator to settle their disputes, under the first full-scale arbitration scheme, launched today.

The scheme, the first to be run by barristers, will be administered by the Common Law Association, which is keen to encourage this alternative to the conventional court actions.

Arbitration at present represents only a small fraction of all litigation: London has long been a centre for commercial arbitration but outside shipping, building and commodity areas of law, it is scarcely used.

Under the new scheme, however, it is hoped that a wide range of disputes, involving individuals as well as companies, will be referred to arbitration for settlement, varying from claims arising from road traffic accidents or medical negligence, to partnership disputes, or disputes between large companies engaged in international trade.

Mr Peter Creswell, QC, chairman of the London Common Law Bar Association, said: "What we are trying to do is to provide another means of resolving disputes, which are supplementary to the courts and which in certain cases will provide far greater speed, flexibility and, hopefully, significant savings in expenses."

There was great public concern, he said, about the expense and delays of in-court proceedings: courts "are congested, and long delays are common".

Under the scheme, for a fee of £25, a skilled barrister or, where the parties wish it, a retired judge with specialist knowledge, will be appointed as the arbitrator. For example, a dispute, normally dealt with in the Chancery Division, would be dealt with by a chancery specialist.

Under a special code of procedure, he will aim to ensure they are resolved fairly, quickly and economically. He will be able to use whatever procedure he considers appropriate for resolving the dispute and can conduct the hearing wherever the parties wish him to conduct it.

The proceedings, which can be cut to the absolute minimum after maximum use of written submissions beforehand, are private; there is no right of appeal on a question of fact and appeals on law can be brought only with the agreement of all parties. In general, arbitration awards have greater finality than court judgments.

Legal aid is not yet available for arbitration, although Mr Creswell said yesterday that it was hoped in the future to be extended to it.

The London Bar Arbitration Scheme: the arbitration secretary, London Common Law Bar Association, 11 South Square, Gray's Inn, London WC1.

Ulster Assembly Police charge 'loyalist' sit-in

By Richard Ford

Riot police baton-charged hundreds of "loyalists" on the steps of Stormont last night as rebel Unionists defied Parliament with a sit-in in the Northern Ireland Assembly chamber.

Trouble erupted at the door to the Stormont building when loyalists attempted to force their way into the entrance hall.

There were several arrests as the police moved into the crowd. The rioting flared as a rebel group of loyalists continued a lengthy debate inside the assembly chamber six hours after it had been formally dissolved.

A 260-strong force of Royal

A total of 4,099 soldiers have been wounded in the North of Ireland between the start of the latest troubles in August 1969 and June 19, 1986, the Government disclosed yesterday.

Ulster Constabulary officers were drafted into the grounds at Stormont but the Government was playing a waiting game to avoid giving the Democratic Unionist Party the propaganda coup of being dragged off the chamber.

Mr Tom King, Northern Ireland Secretary of State, demanded that the police avoid confrontation with Unionists as a plan to remove

the politicians from the chamber at 8pm was dropped.

Led by the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, the 22 Unionist politicians in the chamber vowed on hearing of the dissolution that they would be moved only by force.

The large number of police arrived at Stormont before 3.53pm, which marked the formal ending of yet another ill-fated initiative aimed at bringing devolution to Ulster.

A message that the Privy Council in London had agreed to dissolve the 78-member Assembly was read to Assembly members by the speaker, Mr James Kilfedder.

Divorce ban faces challenge

Ireland's constitutional ban on divorce is being challenged in the European Court of Human Rights, two days before the continuation of the ban is to be submitted to national referendum.

The proceedings before the Strasbourg Human Rights Judiciary have forced the Irish government to propose legislation on the status of illegitimate children. The government also finds itself defending the ban before the court while pressing for constitutional change at home.

The appeal to the court was brought by a Dublin couple, Dr Roy Johnston and Janice

Williams, who have lived together since 1971 and have a daughter aged eight. They claim the ban on divorce barred them from setting up a legitimate family.

Dr Johnston was married in 1952 and has three children from that marriage. He and his wife separated in 1965.

His case, backed by several thousand members of Ireland's Divorce Action group, suffered a setback last year when the European Commission of Human Rights upheld the divorce ban. The commission said the right to marry guaranteed by the European

Convention on Human Rights did not include the right to divorce and marry again. It rejected the claim of Dr Johnston, a Protestant, that Irish laws forced on him the ethics of the Roman Catholic Church.

The government argued that it would have never accepted the convention's right to marry had it even implied the right to a divorce. Dr Johnston's case, if upheld, the government contended, would give a Strasbourg court a "supra-national divorce jurisdiction" and the unacceptable power to impose on Ireland an international code of ethics.

Abolition fails to curb the increase in costs

By Hugh Clayton

Council spending is accelerating fast in spite of government efforts to hold it down, according to an investigation of budgets prepared for the Association of County Councils.

The survey showed that abolition of the Greater London Council and other large authorities had failed to curb some spending in their areas.

Mr Jack Barton, director of finance at Cambridgeshire County Council, who compiled the survey, wrote: "Budgets have moved dramatically away from government plans, both in England and in Wales."

The level of "overspend" the extent to which councils spent more than ministers think they ought to, had risen sharply this year. Low overspends in the past two years were hailed by ministers as evidence of the success of rate capping and other measures against municipal extravagance.

This year, in spite of the continuation of many of the curbs, the overspend in England has risen to 5.5 per cent from 1.4 per cent two years ago.

The survey showed a mixture of trends in greater London and the English metropolitan areas, whose councils were abolished in the spring.

Mr Colin Cullimore, managing director of the Dewhurst chain of butchers shops, said he had received reports that orders placed by wholesalers with slaughterhouses were down by about half.

Mr Cullimore said he had asked for reports from every abattoir in Britain and would announce the findings at a press conference today.

Radiation reports hit lamb prices

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Market prices for lamb have plummeted as a result of the disclosure of high radiation levels in sheep in North Wales and Cumbria, believed to be the result of fall-out from the Chernobyl nuclear power plant explosion in the Soviet Union.

The ban on the movement or slaughter of sheep in the affected areas, announced by the Ministry of Agriculture last Friday, has caused great

apprehension in the trade. The Meat and Livestock Commission said yesterday that wholesale prices had dropped by more than 50p a kilogram to about £1.55 in Britain as a whole, and to £1.37 in Scotland and £1.46 in Wales.

Officials pointed out that part of the fall was because of normal seasonal factors, as more young lambs reached the market, but they would not

have expected prices to fall below £1.60 to £1.70. Mr Colin Cullimore, managing director of the Dewhurst chain of butchers shops, said he had received reports that orders placed by wholesalers with slaughterhouses were down by about half.

Mr Cullimore said he had asked for reports from every abattoir in Britain and would announce the findings at a press conference today.

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Angry doctors declare NHS needs 'massive infusion of funds'

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The National Health Service is in danger of falling apart and needs a massive infusion of funds just to stand still, the British Medical Association said yesterday.

Doctors at the BMA's annual representative meeting in Scarborough listed ward closures, hospital pharmacies shut to out-patients and long waits even to see a hospital specialist before patients go on the waiting list.

Dr John Marks, chairman of the association's council, said the public had been "bamboozled and mesmerized by a series of governments that have told them that the NHS is the envy of the world."

Britain was now one of the lowest spenders on health care in the western world, he said, and the NHS, one of the greatest social experiments in history, was "in danger of falling apart."

It was, however, not too late to rescue a service that still represented marvellous value for money. "It needs a massive infusion of funds merely to stand still and it needs the political will to put more of the national resources, a higher percentage of the gross national product, into the national product, into the NHS," he said.

To cries of "you are lucky" from doctors in the conference, he said that at his local

hospital, Barnet General, patients had to wait 10 weeks for an appointment with a dermatologist, 15 weeks to see an ear nose and throat specialist and 14 weeks for an orthopaedic appointment.

Shortages of medical secretaries meant GPs were being asked to limit their requests for tests, and part of his hospital still consisted of huts built before the First World War. "My patients are getting a worse deal than they got 10 years ago."

Dr Maurice Burrows, chairman of the central committee for hospital medical services, said information from 130 hospitals showed that 70 per cent had beds temporarily closed, or consultants were complaining they were having to discharge patients earlier than they felt was right in order that others could be admitted.

In some cases, he said, people due to be admitted to hospital were having to be turned away when they arrived on the wards because emergencies had taken up the available beds.

Dr Marks said the message that the NHS was in trouble was beginning to get through. The public was beginning to see that cash limits and cost improvement programmes were "euphemisms for real cuts."

There was now "chaos" from the introduction of "grocery-store type" general management; patients could see they were waiting longer for hospital appointments and the effects of the policy of redistributing money from the better-off parts of the NHS to the poorer was coming through at a time of economic depression.

But doctors at the meeting clashed over whether the process should continue unchanged. Dr James Appleby, a consultant paediatrician from Kent, said the formula's use of standard death rates to help to distribute the money meant it was "a service for death, not for health."

The formula did not recognize the value of specialist centres. It inhibited research and ignored the social needs of the population. The existing formula was "a recipe for disaster and cannot be continued."

But doctors for regions which gain from the process said it must continue, and an attempt to get the association to oppose it failed. Dr Marks said the association believed that it should continue, but with higher health service spending, that better-off regions were not cut.

More money was needed for the health service. "But we cannot protest with total honesty until we have eliminated waste within the hospital service."

Competitive tendering is saving the National Health Service £52 million a year, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, disclosed yesterday.

In a Commons written reply he said: "The policy of competitive tendering is producing increasing benefits for the health service. The resources that are released are available for health authorities to spend."

In the first quarter of 1986 further savings of some £10 million a year have been identified.

It is now estimated that a total of £52 million a year will be saved through competitive tendering exercises completed by March 31, 1986.

He disclosed that 148 contracts have been let to private contractors with estimated annual savings of £21.5 million, while 522 have been secured by in-house organizations with gains of £30.5 million a year forecast.

Fears for confidence over pill

Some doctors cannot be trusted to keep confidential a request from a girl aged under 16 for the contraceptive pill, Dr John Marks, chairman of council of the British Medical Association said yesterday.

The General Medical Council must yet again reconsider its advice to doctors so that doctors would have to justify any decision to tell the parents and would risk disciplinary action if they failed to do so.

"The patient must be able to assume that her confidentiality will be respected," he told the association's annual meeting in Scarborough.

The difference between the association's position and the advice of the council on the issue was now smaller than it had been, with the council saying that doctors may disclose a consultation but only in exceptional circumstances.

"There are doctors who maintain that the mere fact that the girl seeks contraceptive advice is proof that she is immature and therefore they can 'shop' her with impunity because the council says they may do so."

Doctors urged to put end to waste

Doctors can not demand more cash for the health service with total honesty until they are sure waste has been eliminated, a doctor turned general manager said yesterday.

Mr Russell Hopkins, a consultant in oral and facial surgery at the University of Wales Hospital in Cardiff, said he found when taking over as general manager last August that the hospital was paying £20,000 a year in maintenance contracts on computers which no longer existed.

Consultants at his hospital had now agreed to a review of prescribing which would cut the bill for antibiotics by £250,000 a year through eliminating over-prescribing and unnecessarily expensive drugs.

"In my own hospital we hope to save £500,000 on a budget of £30 million on measures that will not have any adverse effects on patient care," Mr Hopkins said at the association's annual meeting.

In spite of the saving his hospital has had to close two wards during the summer

Employers against 'cardiac cripples'

By Thomson Prentice

Many employers refuse to give jobs to men who have survived a heart attack, considering them "cardiac cripples," according to a survey by doctors.

Trade unions are unlikely to come to the aid of such men, and barely one in three is likely to have returned to work 18 months after becoming ill.

The survey, carried out by hospital doctors in Newport, Gwent, involved 55 former patients, of whom 42 were trade union members. Only three of those received any practical help in negotiations for lighter duties or redundancy pay - an "unfortunate" lack of support, the doctors say.

During the 18 months after their heart attack, 37 of the men lost their jobs. They included 13 who took early retirement, 10 who were made redundant, and four who were dismissed "as a direct result" of their initial collapse.

The average age of the men was just over 53. Most worked in light manual jobs, but only one in four of the heavy manual workers retained his job. Three of the group were in professions, and their heart conditions had "no discernible effects" on their employment.

The report says a counselling service is needed for patients recovering from such attacks, to encourage them to return to an active and profitable life. It would offer them individual advice about health problems, lifestyle and employment.

Most of the men questioned in the survey said they wanted a counselling service specifically for heart attack patients. The doctors' survey is published in the June issue of the *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*.



Brief Israeli diversion

While ultra-orthodox Jews are burning and spraying posters of scantily-clad women at home, the Israeli government yesterday paraded a bevy of models in Hyde Park wearing the latest, and briefest, Israeli swimwear, to promote fashion and tourism.

The campaign against "lewd" posters, by religious extremists in Israel who regard even short sleeves as indecent, forced advertisers to withdraw certain posters.

But Mr Rafi Baer, director of the Israeli government tourist office in London was unperturbed. "The ultra-extremists are only a very small minority," he said.

The Israeli models have all done their national service and two are still in the armed forces.

Keating murder trial man collapses

By Michael Horsnell

The man accused of murdering Leoni Keating collapsed in Ipswich Crown Court yesterday and was carried to the cells by prison officers.

Leoni, aged three, was kidnapped from a caravan site in Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, last September, where she was on holiday with her mother.

Mr Michael Hill, QC, for the prosecution, said that Gary Hopkins, aged 28, an unemployed labourer, from Bedford, had abducted her and driven her 70 miles to Barton Mills in Suffolk at night.

There he sexually assaulted her and threw her into a relief channel of the river Lark with her hands tied, it was alleged.

Mr Hopkins denies murdering the child between September 12 and 18 last year but admits a charge of kidnapping.

While the prosecution was showing the jury photographs which the accused had taken of the murder scene, Mr Hopkins fainted. He returned to the dock after a 20-minute adjournment.

The child was on holiday with her mother, Mrs Gail Keating, aged 31, of Chiswick, west London, her sister, Nikki, now aged 14, and two other children at the Seashore caravan site, Great Yarmouth.

Mr Hopkins got into their caravan with a key to find the little girl there. Mr Hill said.

He took her away, and about five hours later his Rover car was seen parked by the water channel at Barton Mills. Three days after that the girl's body was seen floating in the water by a woman walking her dogs.

In a statement, Mrs Keating told the court that Leoni had irregular sleeping habits but was normally in bed at nine.

The trial continues today.

Guinness kidnap brothers are jailed

Two brothers were jailed yesterday for the kidnapping last April of Mrs Jennifer Guinness, a merchant banker's wife.

John Cunningham, aged 35, was sentenced to 17 years and his brother Michael, aged 36, to 14 years at the Circuit Criminal Court in Dublin.

Both admitted falsely imprisoning Mrs Guinness, aged 48, in a house in the Ballsbridge district of Dublin, on April 16. Mrs Guinness had been forced from her home at Howth, Dublin, by three armed men who demanded a £2 million ransom.

Police Supt. Tom McDermott said the intruders gave a warning that she would have explosives strapped to her if she did not co-operate.

"While they accept they played a central part in this they were not the initiators," Mr Patrick MacEntee, counsel for the Cunninghams, said.

"They were approached by somebody who said he had inside knowledge and there was a lot of money to be picked up."

"To that extent they did not provoke this criminal enterprise."

Neither of the brothers had intended that the Guinness family should pay the ransom money - it was understood that would come from an insurance policy.

Mr MacEntee said the man who approached his clients had not been charged in connection with the affair.

Supt. McDermott rejected suggestions that the Cunninghams were not the originators of the plot. He said the man they claimed to have approached them was not involved in the early stages of the abduction.

Mr Justice Roe said Mrs Guinness must have had "an appalling experience" during her captivity. She was held under threat of death.

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INTEREST RATES MAY VARY. *Assuming basic rate income tax at 29%.

Unleaded fuel 'should be freely sold by 1989'

The Government intends that there should be at least a minimal network of petrol stations offering unleaded petrol in 1987, building up to wide availability of the fuel by October 1989.

In setting out the broad framework for the introduction of unleaded petrol, Mr William Waldegrave, Minister for the Environment, said in a Commons reply yesterday that he hoped this could be achieved voluntarily by the industry, but the Government did not rule out taking measures to require the provision of unleaded petrol.

Under an EEC directive, he said, unleaded petrol should be generally available throughout the Community by October 1989. Officials are discussing with the oil companies how the tax differential forecasted in the Budget

for unleaded petrol could best be achieved in time for next year's Budget.

Mr Waldegrave said it was important to ensure the availability of suitable cars as soon as possible. The EEC Environment Council had been considering a draft directive on vehicle emissions which sets out the dates from which member states could require new cars to be capable of running on the fuel.

As soon as it had been adopted, the Government would implement the earliest dates set out in the directive:

- October 1, 1988 for new model cars over two litres;
- October 1, 1989 for all new model cars; and
- October 1, 1990 for all new registrations, unless a manufacturer could certify that extensive re-engineering would be involved.

New diesel on horizon

It will be constructed largely from ceramic components able to cope with temperatures of 800C, compared with 113C for existing designs.

The principle of the "adiabatic" or heat retention diesel has been known for some years and is being researched extensively by all the big motor manufacturers.

Ford claims its research is at an advanced stage.

Conflict on cockle bottling secret

A leading firm of London solicitors was accused in the High Court yesterday of negligence in failing to protect the secrets of cockle bottling.

Herbert Smith & Co is being sued by Leslie A Parsons and Sons, bottlers of cockles and mussels, of Burry Port, South Wales.

The company alleges that the solicitors failed to consider and prepare evidence needed to bring an action to protect its secret formula for bottling cockles, devised by its founder, Mr Leslie Parsons, aged 71.

On an offer made by Humber Pickles in 1982 to settle the dispute between the bottlers, Herbert Smith & Co is contesting the case.

Opening the hearing, Mr David Turner-Samuels, QC, told Mr Justice Rose that the secret formula was taken to Hull by two former Parsons employees. When Mr Parsons realized the Hull company was about to start production, he called in the solicitors to launch a High Court action to protect the formula.

In spite of a number of hearings, the company ended up having to withdraw its case and pay £50,000 legal costs to Humber Pickles.

The cockle bottling case continues today.

The young in credit card trap

Britain's young people are on a credit-card spending spree, and many have no hope of ever paying back the money.

Citizens' advice bureaux across the country are reporting a dramatic increase in the numbers of young debtors, aged 18 to 25, turning to them for help.

At Birmingham's Money Advice Centre, Mrs Nicola Thomas, a solicitor, said that a thousand young people a year were applying for help. Each had an average debt of £6,500, against £2,000 to £3,000 only two years ago.

"It's ridiculous. The majority of these young clients are unemployed. Nobody seems to check the applications, and some even get credit when they admit to having no job," she said. In-store credit cards are a favourite way of spending "on tick", she said.

At Southwark Consumer Advice Centre in south London, Miss Jackie King, the manager, said: "Today a young person can walk down the high street and easily run up £2,000 of debts in one day."

"The new method finance companies use of credit scoring from the application form makes it much easier for a young person to obtain credit by not telling the whole truth."

The formula solved the cockle-bottlers' greatest problem - how to get the acidity level strong enough to preserve, yet weak enough to be pleasant to the taste. By refining the process, Parsons' bottled cockles had become "the market leader for taste", counsel said.

In 1975, Mr Parsons won £30,000 damages over the copying of a union peeling machine he invented. That case led to a dispute over his solicitor's bill - he was overcharged by £131,000 - and the Law Society paid him £65,000 in settlement of a negligence claim.

Lesson in British satire for Moscow
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APPOINTMENT
SCHEDULE

PARLIAMENT JUNE 23 1986

Judgment anticipated • Car tax evasion

Water authorities

Finding a judge to deal with trespass

LAW REVIEW

The Home Secretary (Mr Douglas Hurd) is discussing with the police and other interested parties if any strengthening of the criminal law is required by extending police powers under the Public Order Bill or by some limited extension of criminal trespass...

In addition (he said) the Lord Chancellor is considering possible improvements in civil procedure for the summary re-possession of land which is available under Order 13 of the rules of the Supreme Court...

Mr Robert Key (Salisbury, C) The principal objection is that matters of public order often fall financially on small tenant farmers, and that is manifestly unfair...

Will the Attorney General pass on to the Lord Chancellor the problem arising under Order 113 where a county court judge or a registrar could be used, as there is no duty judge system unlike in the High Court...

Mr John Morris, chief Opposition spokesman on legal affairs, said the problem was ensuring a balance between rights of the owners and those who believed they had a claim of right to a particular property...

He said later that it was a matter for the Home Secretary whether temporary trespass to criminal offence was made a crime over land was made a criminal offence...

But any form of criminal trespass which might be brought in (he said) is going to have so many difficulties. For example, you might walk through the front door of your friend's house thinking he is in and he is not...

Parliament today Commons (2.30): Debates on estimates relating to long-term unemployed and Manpower Services Commission corporate plan and on the environment and Property Services Agency. Lords (2.30): Wages Bill, committee, first day.

Married women get allowance

INVALID CARE

The Government is to legislate at once to extend the invalid care allowance to married women on the same terms as it is at present paid to married men and single people...

After the European Court reaches its decision, expected shortly, on the case against the British Government for excluding married women from the allowance, Mr Fowler said, the Government will consider whether arrears should be paid to married women...

Accordingly the Government will very shortly introduce an amendment to the Social Security Bill to achieve that.

The extension of invalid care allowance to married women will mean a substantial expansion in the scope of the scheme. At present there are fewer than 11,000 beneficiaries and the cost of the allowance is £13 million. We expect up to 70,000 married women to claim valid care allowance at an additional net cost of around £55 million in a full year.

The extension of the allowance to married women represents a very large improvement in the provision we are making for disabled people in the community. It will recognize the vital role which married women play in looking after disabled people.

Mr Michael Mescher, chief Opposition spokesman on health and social security, said the extension of the allowance to married women was a long overdue right and would be welcomed by women's organizations and the 70,000 married women who would benefit.

This is a complete vindication of the case taken to the European Court of Justice by Mrs Jackie Drake of Worsley, Greater Manchester (he said). It is tragic that this decision was left to the last possible moment by the Government and was not made before the case was started on December 20, 1984.

Family credits to be paid direct

SOCIAL SECURITY

Following consultations with employers and women's groups, the Government has revised plans for payment of the new family credit through wages and decided instead to make it payable direct to recipients.

This was announced in the House of Lords by Lady Trumpton, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, during the resumed committee stage of the Social Security Bill.

The effect of the change, she said, would be that the money would be paid direct, invariably to wives rather than husbands, in line with current arrangements for the payment of the family income supplement.

Putting car tax on petrol would cost 38p a gallon

EXCISE DUTY

The Government had no present plans to abolish vehicle excise duty and put the cost on the price of petrol, Mr Michael Spicer, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said during Commons questioning. Further steps to deter evasion were being taken this year.

He told Conservative MPs who urged him to do so that such a course of action would add 38 pence to a gallon of petrol an amount that some in the House queried.

Water authorities

LOCAL FINANCE

The Rate Support Grants Bill was necessary to provide local authorities with certainty about their present and past entitlements. Mr William Waldegrave, Minister for Environment, Countryside and Local Government, told the Commons when he moved the second reading of the Bill.

He said the Bill validated the way in which the powers to determine block grant multipliers had been used since 1981, and it set on the statute book the precise powers necessary to ensure that the present practice could continue in future.

Alliance move against private water

PRIVATIZATION

Customers would greatly benefit from the increased efficiency which would result from private sector management, Mr John Patten, Minister for Housing, Urban Affairs and Construction, said in a Commons debate on the privatization of water authorities.

The Director-General of Water Services, who was to be appointed, would ensure that the water service plics were well managed.

He said that the debate would mark the beginning of an increasingly well-argued, vociferous and ultimately convincing campaign that would dissuade the Government from proceeding down this particular political course.

The Government was convinced that privatization offered new opportunities for improving the water environment, including tighter ministerial control over water quality improvement.

The Government would offer shares on attractive terms to all workers in the industry. There would be an initial block of entirely free shares for each employee.

There would be an extra free share, sometimes even more, for every share an employee bought, up to a particular limit. When the limit was reached, a discount on additional purchases, up to a particular ceiling.

This was just another public asset management which the Government was trying to dress up with some philosophical justification. The situation in France was quite different. In no other country was the complete handing of water supply and sewerage management and control in private hands. That would be a unique situation.

Industry should be publicly owned and controlled and that the industry should be under democratic control and accountable at regional as well as national level.

Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C) Britain's sewers were in serious disrepair. There were problems in some areas but the condition of sewers overall was good.

By privatization, they would take away a significant proportion of ownership from the few from ministers and transfer it to the many. He welcomed that.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Stockton South, SDP) said there would not be a better guarantee of supply or better control of pollution because it was not in the interests of a private company to provide these facilities in the public interest.

Stalker case statement demanded

RUC INQUIRY

An urgent Commons statement by the Home Secretary on allegations made about Mr John Stalker, the Deputy Chief Constable of Manchester, was demanded in the Commons by Mr Cecil Franks (Barrow and Furness, C).

Mr Stalker was recently removed as head of the inquiry into the alleged shooting of a police officer by the Royal Ulster Constabulary. He was expected to be told the precise nature of the disciplinary allegations against him today.

Bill to bring certainty to rate grant

LOCAL FINANCE

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Demand for full inquiry on M4 crash

ROAD SAFETY

The cause of the crash on the M4 in Berkshire in the early hours of the morning in which 13 people were killed, had not been established, Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Transport, explained in the Commons in reply to Mr Jack Dromed (Eastington, Lab) during question time exchanges about road safety.

Mr Robert Hughes, chief Opposition spokesman on transport, sought an assurance that the inquiry to be held into the crash would be far-ranging.

the opposite carriageway. Would a barrier be paid to the guards on the central reservation to stop such a thing in future?

Mr Moore said he would make sure that those points were pursued adequately. He also gave an undertaking that the Government would look further, and carefully, at the issue of drink-driving in relation to drivers' attitudes and road casualty figures.

He added that half the total of deaths on the roads had drink-related causes. Around two out of every three of these tragedies occurred between 10pm and 6am.

Mr Moore said he had not seen the article but, being in such a journal, it would be taken seriously. His department would look into the matter.

He gave a similar assurance over road sign-posting to Sir Dudley Smith (Warwick and Leamington, C) who said signs were often inadequate and a contributory cause of accidents.

Civil protection The Civil Protection in Peace-time Bill, which permits local authorities to use civil defence resources in peacetime emergencies and disasters as well as in times of war, was read the third time in the House of Lords and passed.

More using London buses and Tubes

LOCAL FINANCE

In 1985-86 there were some 1,160 million passenger journeys on London buses, 7 per cent more than in 1981, Mr David Mitchell, Minister of State for Transport, told the Commons.

On the Underground there were 740 million, 37 per cent more than in 1981 and the highest level ever.

Sale room

SALE ROOM

Four ancient tarts, waiting for customers in the dispirited atmosphere of a London auction room, became the most expensive German painting of the twentieth century sold at auction when it made £561,700 at Christie's last night.

Ooh... er... um... oh dear... well... yes... I mean... How to open your mouth on television without putting your foot in it. Making a fool of yourself in front of millions isn't funny, but if you've ever interviewed on television it could happen to you.

Higher loans could stretch borrowers' ability to pay. In its latest survey, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors says that 80 per cent of estate agents report price increases of at least 2 per cent in the past three months, with many estimating the increase at 5 per cent and about 5 per cent reporting increases of more than 8 per cent.

Hurd aims for 'theft proof' cars. The Government will urge Common Market countries to adopt a European Standard on car security to encourage manufacturers to build theft-proof vehicles, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, disclosed last night.

German Realism hits the jackpot. As did a colourful Campendonek at £129,600 (estimate £70,000-£80,000) and a vase of lilies by Kandinsky, Rotluff at £86,400 (estimate £40,000-£60,000). There was a Nolde at £324,000 and a Kirchner at £205,200, the latter doubling expectations.

Woman police check... hunt for... Concluded

IRA bomb trial

Woman ready to shoot policeman at traffic check, court is told

By Stewart Teadler, Crime Reporter

One of the women members of the IRA unit planning to bomb British resorts last year reached towards a hidden gun when an unsuspecting policeman stopped her car for a traffic offence, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

The incident was described to police later by the driver of the car, Donald Craig, aged 28, who said the woman, Ella O'Dwyer, told him afterwards that she would have started shooting if the police had got near.

On another occasion Craig said he drove two other members of the unit, Martina Anderson and Gerard McDonnell, to a car park by Wembley Stadium during last year's Cup Final on May 18. The two disappeared for several hours.

The story of Craig's involvement with the unit was described yesterday to Mr Justice Boreham after Craig, a carpenter from Co. Donegal, had earlier admitted conspiring last year with the five members of the unit to cause explosions.

The court was told that Craig was recruited by the IRA after being treated in an Irish mental hospital in 1984 for alcoholism. He was a manic depressive with wide seasonal mood swings. Yesterday his sentencing was ad-

joined until further evidence could be heard on possible commitment to a secure mental unit.

At one stage Det Supt George Stepany, of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch, told the court that Craig was "an unlikely recruit to an active service unit. At the end of the day, if you look at it he was no help at all".

Mr Roy Amlot, for the prosecution, said when Craig was arrested he had been "remarkably frank with police".

The crown accepted that it was unlikely Craig knew details of the bombing campaign and there was no evidence that he was part of the active service unit or involved in preparing the bombs.

After joining the IRA Craig was given a course in bomb-making at a camp in Co. Donegal and told he would probably have to go on an advanced course later. In Britain he was given the codename of Rory and told to buy a car and rent a flat. He kept in touch with Patrick McGee through calls to public telephones.

Mr Amlot said in May last year Craig drove his car the wrong way up a one-way street in Whitehaven, Cumbria. He was stopped and breath tested by police.

At the time the police

approached the car O'Dwyer reached towards her shoulder bag and later Craig said she told him that she would have opened fire if police had approached too close.

Eventually Craig argued with McDonnell, who was displeased with his performance, and Craig said he wanted to resign. He wrote a letter to McGee putting his case which was discovered by police.

He had been accused by the IRA of buying a car with only two doors, a flat without the right type of exits, and he used his own name to buy the car. He also put his own name on an Irish licence and car insurance.

Craig later told police he did this because he thought it was crazy to use a false address and he went against the IRA instructions because "he wanted out". After the flight back to London refusing to stop.

Lord Gifford, QC, for the defence, said that Craig's mental illness had been diagnosed while he was in prison awaiting trial and he became involved with the IRA while he was in a manic state. Craig had tried to extricate himself and had claimed to the police that the IRA had him "trapped in their clutches".

Hunt for suspects continues

By Our Crime Reporter

The police hunt for leading IRA bombers and planners behind the attacks of recent years continues, in spite of the end of the Brighton and resorts bomb trial. There are cases outstanding involving IRA attacks dating back to the beginning of this decade.

Police believe that Magee was part of a network of IRA operators who helped to put the Grand Hotel bomb in place. They want to talk to Patrick Murray, sought by Lancashire police on a separate charge, although there is no warrant by Sussex police for his arrest.

Mr Murray, aged 42, is on bail in Dublin on a shooting

charge. He is said to be a friend of Magee. Last week he failed to answer bail in Dublin and Irish police are now hunting him.

After a number of London bombings, beginning in 1981, in which two people died outside Chelsea Barracks and a police explosives expert was killed in Oxford Street, Scotland Yard has a number of suspects.

Evelyn Glenholmes, aged 29, is wanted on nine counts which cover the 1981 campaign. Police would also like to question her about IRA operations that have taken place in Britain since that series of attacks. Earlier this year an

attempt to extradite her from the Irish Republic collapsed.

Glenholmes has been linked to an arms dump found in the Home Counties, which also disclosed possible evidence on John Downey, aged 33, wanted for his alleged part in the bombings in Hyde Park and Regent's Park in 1982 in which eight people were killed and 53 injured. Like Glenholmes, Downey has been living in the Irish Republic.

Also wanted by the police is Owen Coogan, aged 36, who has not been publicly linked by the Yard to specific attacks, but is considered to be the main planner behind many attacks in Britain.

35 years' jail for 'inhuman' bomber

Continued from page 1
more 20 years to life imprisonment for explosive offences. Magee left the dock to a cry of "Our day will come" in Gaelic.

To McDonnell, who is aged 35, the judge said he was not only at the centre of the resorts campaign, but proud of it.

"How anyone can be proud is very difficult to understand. You said a warning would be given. Having regard to your reliability we are entitled to doubt that."

Peter Sherry, aged 30, was told that although he had arrived late on the scene in Glasgow where Magee and the unit were arrested, there was no doubt he was a very important element in the conspiracy. He had offered no help when police were searching for possible bombs last year and he had shown "a fanatical loyalty" in court.

The judge told Martina Anderson, aged 24, that "it is difficult to envisage a young woman of intelligence being so stripped of humanity that she could sink to taking part in such a plot".

"You were at the centre. I have seen you in the witness box...and I have no doubt you are a hard, cynical young woman." She would remain in prison until some sort of humanity crept back.

When Ella O'Dwyer, aged 27, came into court she sat down and was dragged to her feet smiling. The judge told her: "You have sunk to the depths of inhumanity and you are proud of it." She had enjoyed every minute of being in the witness box and the trial.

Earlier the judge sentenced Shaun McShane, aged 33, who pleaded guilty to aiding and abetting the unit, to eight years in prison. McShane, an Irishman living in Glasgow, arranged for flats for the unit and took a message to Ireland. He was told that those who helped the IRA acted against the community. If the IRA knew they could find safe houses they were bound to be encouraged.

Sentencing on Donal Craig, aged 28, who admitted being part of the bombing conspiracy, was adjourned to await medical reports.



Warrant Officer Bill Brazier, who is leading 10 Royal Marines in a 1,800-mile relay run down through Norway in aid of the Red Cross, cradling the team mascot, a reindeer calf called Henry Dumant, after the Red Cross founder (Photograph: John Voos).

Mother strangled girl and her friend

A mother took her daughter and a playmate to a park, then strangled both children, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Mrs Mirella Beechook pretended to be distraught when she told millions of television viewers that her daughter Tina, aged seven, had been abducted.

Mrs Beechook, aged 26, finally confessed to both killings to her estranged husband and the police. She said she strangled the girls because she feared going to prison for a shoplifting offence.

Mr Allen Green, for the prosecution, told the jury there was no dispute that Mrs Beechook killed the children. What had to be decided was her state of mind at the time. Mrs Beechook denies murdering the girls on September 18 last year.

Mr Green told a jury of seven men and five women that the children attended Albion primary school, Rotherhithe, and were close friends. Tina's father, Mr Edwin Beechook, aged 31, left the family's flat in Rotherhithe in 1983 and moved to a flat in east London, although he regularly visited his wife and daughter.

On the day of the killings, Mr Green said, Mrs Beechook collected her daughter from school and they met Stacey. She took the girls to Southwark Park and sent Tina off to play then strangled Stacey with a length of cable from a vacuum cleaner and hid the body under a pile of leaves.

Mr Green said Mrs Beechook took Tina back to their flat, strangled her and hid the body in a red shopping trolley.

Mrs Beechook pretended that the girls had been abducted and neighbours and police searched the area.

She showed Stacey's mother, Mrs Linda Kavanagh, one of Stacey's red shoes and said she had found it. Mrs Kavanagh noticed particularly that Mrs Beechook "didn't appear to be upset".

That night, Mr Green said, police found Stacey's body. Three days later they discovered Tina's body in Mrs Beechook's flat after she had confessed to her husband. The trial continues today.

Arts curbs 'worst for local theatres'

By Gavin Bell, Arts Correspondent

A pressure group for the arts has joined the fray for more government funds with a claim that regional and touring theatre companies have been affected by a sharp reduction in Arts Council support during the past five years.

A survey by the National Campaign for the Arts published today says that grants to repertory companies, such as the Mercury Theatre, Colchester, and the Theatre Royal, Stratford East, have been cut by 11 per cent in real terms since 1980, while grants to leading touring companies

such as Foco Novo and Hull Truck has dropped by more than a quarter during the same period.

The statistics have been submitted to Sir Kenneth Cork, vice-chairman of the Arts Council, who is heading an inquiry into the present system for subsidizing the theatre which is due to report its findings to the Government in September.

Mr Simon Crine, NCA director, estimates that the overall grant to the theatre has fallen by £1.5 million since 1979-80, and has urged Sir Kenneth to make good the shortfall.

PC cleared of cruelty

A policeman who tried to kill a dog suffering from advanced distemper after attempts to contact animal agencies had failed was cleared yesterday of cruelly beating the year-old mongrel.

The decision, at Glasgow Sheriff Court, ended a seven-month ordeal for PC Fraser Ross, aged 27, who was sus-

pending after the incident, at Blackhill police station, Glasgow, last November.

The court was told earlier that the dog was foaming at the mouth and trying to bite everyone.

Police tried eight times to call in help from the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Coroner rejects evidence

Two Lambeth home helps told an inquest yesterday that they had seen an elderly man in their care alive last January and February, when evidence before the coroner indicated that the man probably died before Christmas.

Sir Montague Levine, the Southwark coroner, said he did not accept the evidence of Mrs Evelyn Meredith and Mrs Daisy Gordon, who were both supposed to look after Mr George Owers, aged 79. Mr Owers was found dead by the police at his home in Effra Parade, Brixton, on May 15. Piles of mail on the hall mat included unopened Christmas cards.

Mrs Meredith told the court she visited him on January 13 this year. She said she called again on February 17 and got no reply. Mr Owers' regular home help, Mrs Gordon, told the court she saw him alive on February 3.

Sir Montague, recording an open verdict, said: "I find it hard to accept that George Owers was seen and spoken to in January and February. I find it impossible to accept."

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FMR

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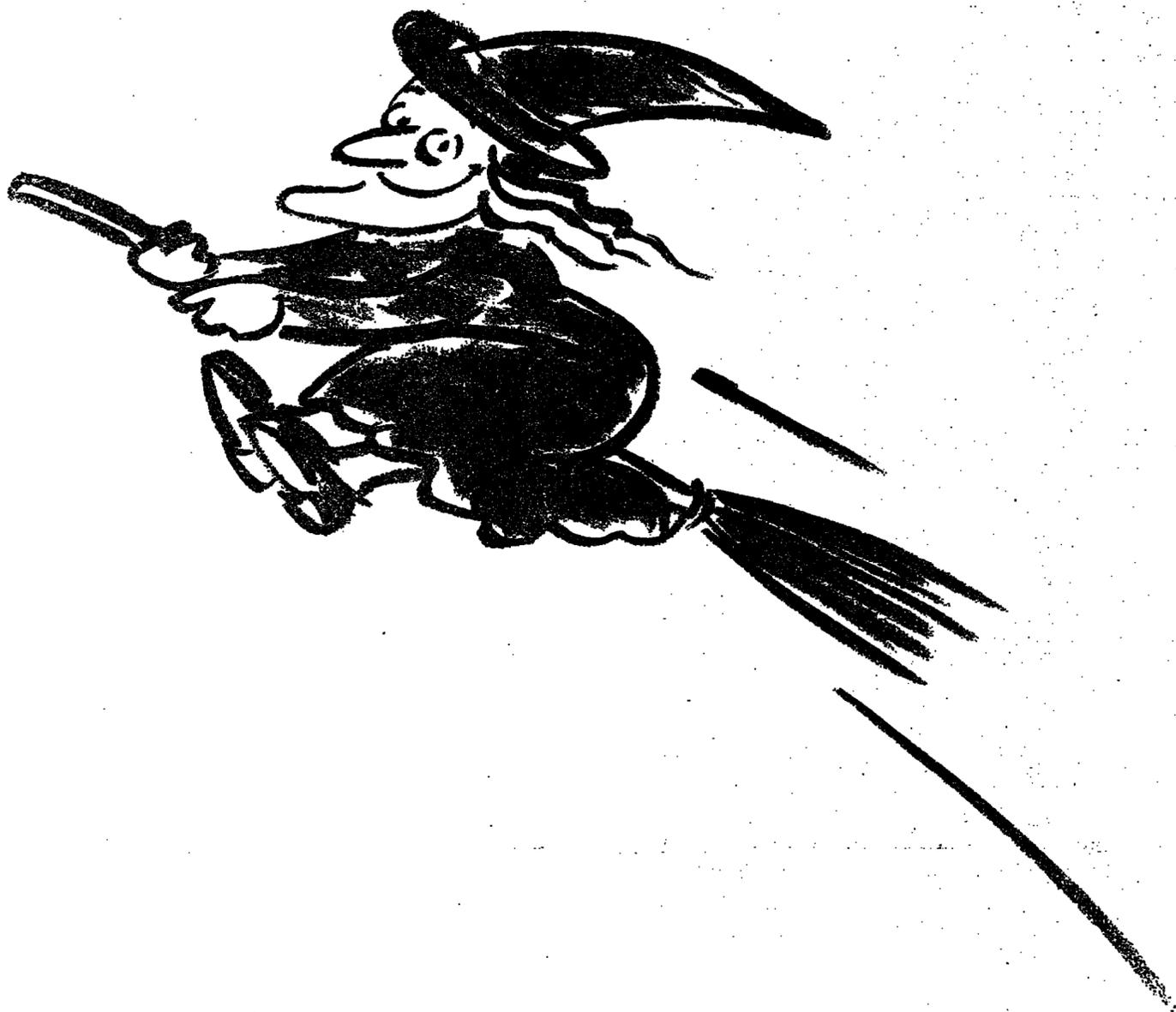
DUTY

Bill to be certain to rate

LOCAL FINANCE

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**WHAT ARE THE SAFEST CARS IN BRITAIN,
ACCORDING TO THIS IMPARTIAL OBSERVER?**

A Volvo. (The 360 GLE.) A Volvo. (The 240 GLE Estate.) Another Volvo. (The 740 GLE.) And the Mercedes 190E. (Well done!)
These were the four top-rated cars in a recent report on safety carried out by a certain well-respected consumer association.
We're not allowed to name them, but it's wizard news all the same.

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The South Africa crisis

Botha orders out second foreign journalist without giving reason

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa last night ordered the Johannesburg correspondent of Newsweek, Mr Richard Manning, to leave the country by midnight on Thursday. No reason was given.

The action, said a letter from Mr Stoffel Botha, Minister of Home Affairs, was being taken under the Admission of Persons to the Republic Regulation Act of 1972. Mr Manning was given until 10 am on Thursday to make representations to Mr Botha "as to why this order should not be carried out".

If there is no reprieve, he will be the second foreign journalist expelled since the emergency was declared on June 12. A CBS News cameraman, Mr Wim de Vos, was thrown out on June 17.

The June 23 issue of Newsweek, which had a cover report entitled "South Africa's civil war", was withheld from sale after its distributor was told the magazine would infringe emergency restrictions.

Meanwhile, a treason trial in Pietermaritzburg ended yesterday with the withdrawal of the state's case against the four remaining accused, all black trade union leaders.

After Mr Justice John Milne acquitted the accused of all charges, friends and relatives in the public gallery raised clenched fists in the black power salute and there was further jubilation outside the court.

Mr Thezamele Gqweta, president of the South African Allied Workers Union, and other senior members, Mr Sisa Njikelana, Mr Sam Kikine and Mr Isaac Ngcobo, had been accused of plotting with the outlawed African National Congress to overthrow the Government.

The state's inability to make charges of treason stick explains in part the wide powers of arrest and detention given

to the police under the state of emergency since June 12.

These enable the police to hold detainees indefinitely without trial and without having to give any reasons to a court. Many trade unionists are understood to be among those arrested since the emergency went into force.

In another development, it was disclosed yesterday that Brigadier Andrew Molope, the Bophuthatswana police officer shot dead on Saturday, was almost certainly the victim of a revenge killing.

He commanded a police unit which in March shot dead 11 people attending what was officially said to have been an illegal gathering in Winter-veid, in Bophuthatswana, one of the four "independent" tribal homelands.

In Pretoria, the Government's Bureau for Information reported yesterday that two people had died in "black-on-black violence" in the 24 hours to 6 am yesterday, bringing to 57 the total number of people officially reported to have died in "unrest-related incidents" since the emergency was declared.

The bureau is the only official source of news about unrest, and the only legal source about involvement of the Army and police.

Priest defies directive

Cape Town (Reuters) - Pretoria yesterday ordered the eviction of hundreds of homeless black squatters talking refuge in churches in white residential areas, but at least one priest vowed to defy the directive.

The Rev Geoff Quinan, rector at the All Saints Anglican church in the white suburb of Pinelands, said he was charged with housing a group of black people. He was ordered to evict them and pay a fine or appear in court.

"I'm not paying the fine and I'm not kicking them out," he said.

Healey off for talks in Pretoria

By Richard Evans Political Correspondent

Mr Denis Healey, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, left London for South Africa last night determined to visit Mr Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress (ANC), who has spent the last 22 years in prison.

His application to see Mr Mandela is still being considered by the South African Minister of Justice.

Mr Healey welcomed the British Government's decision to have talks this week with Mr Oliver Tambo, the ANC's acting president, but accused Mrs Thatcher of being "dragged screaming" into sanctions and a shift of policy.

Mr Healey, accompanied by Mr Donald Anderson, Labour's African affairs spokesman, had an hour-long meeting with Mr Tambo yesterday and spoke to Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, on his return from South Africa.

South Africa is in 'evil grip' of police

By Nicholas Beeston

Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, said yesterday that South Africa was in the "evil grip" of the security forces, and warned Pretoria of a violent backlash if its "stranglehold" on the country was not relaxed.

Speaking on his return from South Africa in the first uncensored eye-witness account of the situation since the declaration of a state of emergency, Mr Waite called President Botha's regime "a massive failure of statesmanship".

Before reporting back to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Mr Waite described his six-day visit to Johannesburg, Pretoria and Cape Town where, he said, the arrests had been "on an unprecedented scale".

He produced a letter written on the back of a small piece of paper by a young black detainee which was smuggled out of prison. The letter spoke of a

severe lack of "basic human rights" in jail.

He expressed particular bitterness at the arrest of church leaders whose families, he said, had been arrested.

He recounted the case of a whole congregation which was arrested in a Cape Town church last week. The two daughters, one of them pregnant, of a leading member of the South African Council of Churches had also been arrested.

He called his visit a "difficult and distressing task", and he praised church groups for their patience and their moderating influence.

But he poured scorn on the South African Government and the security forces, and quoted one policeman who said: "in the present situation my word is law".

Mr Waite accused the police of fanning "the flames of discontent" at the Crossroads squatter camp in Cape Town, describing them as "riding on the back of the unrest".

Cabinet to consider aid plan

Continued from page 1

Secretary, Lord Whitelaw, the deputy Prime Minister, Mr Norman Tebbit, the Conservative chairman, and Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, it became clear that the Government still favours diplomatic rather than economic measures to achieve its stated aim of ending apartheid and bringing down the level of violence without creating an economic wasteland.

It is portraying the offer of talks with Mr Tambo in that light, emphasizing that Mrs Chalker will be calling on the ANC to renounce violence. Mrs Thatcher is also prepared to agree to Sir Geoffrey leading a last ditch peace mission

Timetable towards action on South Africa:

June 24 - Cabinet's overseas and defence policy committee meets.

June 25 - Cabinet meets.

June 26, 27 - European Council meets in The Hague.

August 2, 3 - Heads of seven Commonwealth governments who sponsored Eminent Persons' Group meet in London.

to Pretoria to encourage Mr Botha to end apartheid.

But it was also seemed that she is now ready, while still arguing against the efficacy of economic measures, to support a limited package at The Hague.

Political play banned by Cape police

Cape Town (Reuters) - South African police used their emergency powers last night to ban a play which lampoons members of the Government, saying it was a political meeting.

The Cape Town area's police chief, Brigadier Chris Swart, issuing the latest in a series of emergency orders, prohibited the play *Senzenina* (What Have We Done?), which was to have been staged in the city last night, on the grounds that it was a gathering organized by the anti-apartheid United Democratic front.

It has been performed many times before in South Africa.

Nato experts study troop cuts proposal

From Frederick Bonsart Brussels

The Warsaw Pact summit proposal for reductions in conventional forces in Europe "from the Atlantic to the Urals" was considered by Nato for the first time yesterday when a high-level task force on conventional arms control, set up by last month's North Atlantic Council at Halifax, Nova Scotia, had its initial meeting in Brussels.

Chaired by Signor Marcello Guidi, Nato's Deputy Secretary-General, the task force consists of defence experts from the capitals of member countries. They are charged with reviewing the whole approach to conventional arms reductions.

They will elaborate on the Western proposals at the Stockholm conference on disarmament in Europe and examine the mutual force reduction negotiations in Vienna.

The task force is due to present an interim report in October and a final report for the next ministerial council meeting in December.

After the force reduction negotiations in Vienna, officials said they considered the Warsaw Pact proposals to be a response to the Nato Halifax initiative.

Lisbon battle on labour laws

Cabinet calls confidence vote

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

The Portuguese Government has called for a vote of confidence in Parliament following the defeat last Friday of its proposal to be allowed to change the labour laws.

The minority Social Democrat Government of Senhor Anibal Cavaco Silva, the Prime Minister, wants to modify the labour laws to permit lay-offs and short-term contracts. Such measures would be unconstitutional under present law, but they are part of the Government's programme to increase investment.

Parliament has three days to discuss the confidence motion before voting. If the government loses, it will automatically be forced to resign.

This conflict between the Government and Parliament is only the latest of a series since Senhor Cavaco Silva took office seven months ago.

He has been stalemated in his attempt to sell off state-owned newspaper companies and was forced to alter his budget to get it approved. He can expect opposition to his proposed new internal security law.

His party has only 88 seats in Parliament, while the opposition Socialists have 57, the Communists 38 and former President Eanes's Democratic Renewal Part (PRD) 45.

The Government can usually count on the 22 votes of the Christian Democrats and sometimes part of the PRD

vote, but they are not enough for a majority.

The Prime Minister and other Social Democrat leaders believe they could obtain a parliamentary majority if elections were held now. Opinion polls show the Prime Minister with a high popularity rating.

He could be expected to campaign on the promise that his party wants to bring prosperity and change to Portugal but has been prevented by the other parties in Parliament.

But President Soares is known to oppose the idea of new elections because of their high cost to the country.

If necessary, he would prefer to find another solution within Parliament, perhaps a coalition among other parties.

President defuses Sri Lanka crisis

From Vijitha Yapa Colombo

President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka has agreed to see a delegation from Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike's Sri Lanka Freedom Party tomorrow before he meets other recognized political parties to explain his proposals for devolution.

The decision has defused a crisis which was threatening to

make the meeting of the parties meaningless, since the Sri Lanka Freedom Party is the main opposition party. Mrs Bandaranaike is expected to lead the delegation to see the President. It will be their first official meeting since her civic rights were restored on January 1.

The proposals for devolution have been approved by the Cabinet, and have been

sent to Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister. Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, the National Security Minister, said they would give Sri Lanka's nine provinces similar powers to those enjoyed by Indian states.

The moderate Tamil United Liberation Front, whose leaders are in Madras, were invited to tomorrow's meeting but have declined.



Mourners attending a "restricted" funeral yesterday for a man killed by vigilantes in Cape Town's Nyanga township.

UK shirks duty, says ANC chief

By Paul Valley

A call for comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa was made yesterday by Mr Oliver Tambo, president of the African National Congress (ANC).

He accused the British Government of shirking its responsibility to the rest of the Commonwealth by its lack of action over the report of the Eminent Persons' Group.

Mr Tambo demanded the isolation of the Botha regime by complete financial and trade sanctions, an oil embargo, the ending of air and sea links and the closure of loopholes in the arms embargo.

Sanctions had to be total and immediate, he told the Royal Commonwealth Society in London.

Anything other than complete economic isolation would be "a sign to Botha that the British Government is not prepared to act in any meaningful way".

Mr Tambo asked Commonwealth leaders and the Queen to intervene "on our side, on the side of humanity". Under a black government South Africa, he was sure, would rejoin the Commonwealth.

Last night the Secretary General of the Commonwealth, Mr Sonny Ramphal, was due to see the Queen. The subject of sanctions was thought to be high on the agenda.

On the argument that sanctions would hit the blacks in South Africa, Mr Tambo said his people already bore the burden of daily shootings, beatings against detainees and a vicious campaign of terror.

Israeli nurses strike over pay

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

All but a few of Israel's 11,000 hospital nurses walked out yesterday morning, vowing to stay on strike until they had won the right to their own trade union, along with better pay and conditions.

A small number stayed to help run casualty wards, maternity and intensive-care units, while operating theatres were staffed only at a level able to cope with emergencies.

Army nurses were brought in to run wards, relatives of the sick were allowed to give some limited bedside care and many

non-critical patients were sent home.

Yesterday evening a meeting between Mr Mordechai Gur, the Health Minister, and representatives of the Histadrut labour federation, which has a nurses' section, was called to try to find a way of ending the strike.

But the nurses' representatives refused to attend, even though Mr Gur has said he has every sympathy with their case.

The dispute has been running on for six months. The nurses say poor salaries mean

low recruitment and a high drop-out rate, with the result that health care in hospitals has dropped to dangerously low levels.

It is a case they have found almost impossible to argue because their main employer is the Histadrut itself, which runs the health insurance scheme that looks after more than 75 per cent of all the hospitals in the country.

The nurses have been offered a 12 per cent pay rise in an arbitration award, but have turned it down.

Sicilian election sends message of stability

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The Sicilian regional elections sent a message of stability at the weekend to the Government in Rome, rather than rocking the political boat, as had been expected.

Big changes would have affected the five-party coalition on which the national Government is based.

The Christian Democrats will have two seats fewer in the new regional assembly, but remain by far the largest single party.

During the election campaign there was a quarrel

between Signor Bettino Craxi, the Socialist Prime Minister, and Signor Ciriaco de Mita, the Christian Democrat national secretary.

They are allies in the national Government, but their attacks on each other were so strong that commentators believed the alliance could not have survived a decisive vote.

The final results were: Christian Democrats, 36 seats (38 last time); Communists, 19 (20); Socialists, 14 (14); Italian Social Movement, 8 (6); Republicans, 5 (5); Social Democrats, 4 (3); Liberals, 3 (3); Others, 1 (1).

Arafat appeal for UN aid at Beirut camps

Beirut - Mr Yassir Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization leader, has appealed for UN troops to be deployed around refugee camps in Beirut, where fighting continues unabated despite a 10-day-old ceasefire (Juan Carlos Gumucio writes).

Newspapers in Beirut said yesterday that Mr Arafat made the call in a telegram to the leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

Two more died in yesterday's clashes between Palestinians and Shia Muslim militiamen.

Opposition to boycott parliament in Dhaka

Dhaka - Bangladesh's largest opposition party, the Awami League, has decided to boycott Parliament when it meets next month for its inaugural session, threatening nationwide civil agitation against martial law (Ahmed Fazi writes).

Sheikh Hasina Wazed, chief of the Awami League, which won 73 of the 300 seats in the May elections, said yesterday that she and other league members would stay out of the House if Army rule remained and the constitution was not fully restored.

Bus tragedy

Lisbon - Eleven people died and 13 were badly injured on Sunday evening when an express bus carrying 40 passengers between the northern city of Braga and Lisbon skidded and crashed near Santa Maria de Lamas (Martha de la Cal writes).

Plant collapse

Taloja, India (Reuters) - Seventeen people were feared dead in a textile factory collapse here as rescuers struggled to reach six people still trapped.

TV agreement

Luxembourg (AP) - The European Community has adopted common standards for direct satellite television broadcasting, which is expected to start in the EEC early in 1987.

Kiev danger

Moscow (AFP) - Radioactive food is still being sold in Kiev markets, two months after the Chernobyl accident, *L'express* reported.

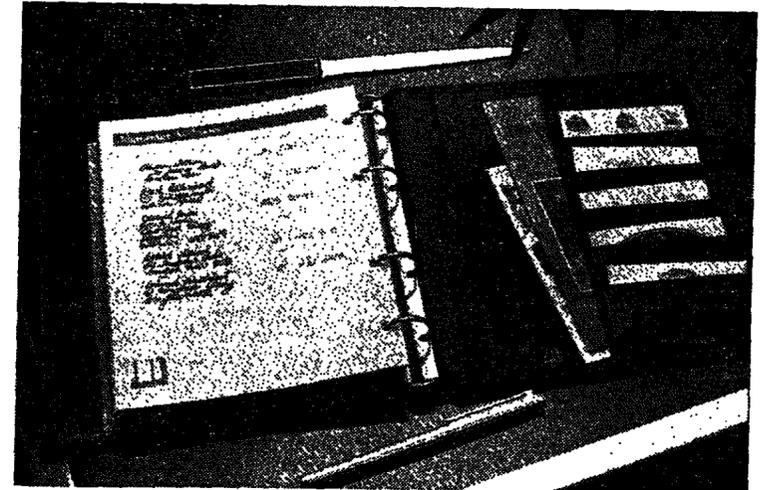
Tunis sacking

Tunis (Reuters) - President Habib Bourguiba yesterday continued a big government shake-up by dismissing the wife of his Prime Minister, Mrs Fethia Mzali, as Minister for Family and Women's Affairs, the TAP news agency said.

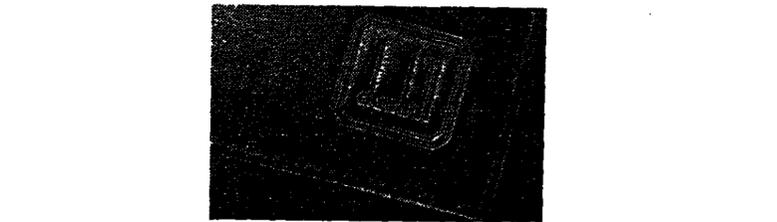
Navy boost

Peking (Reuters) - China is making a new generation of guided-missile destroyers and plans to step up its study of electronic equipment in the next five years to boost its Navy's strike capability, the weekly *Peking Review* said.

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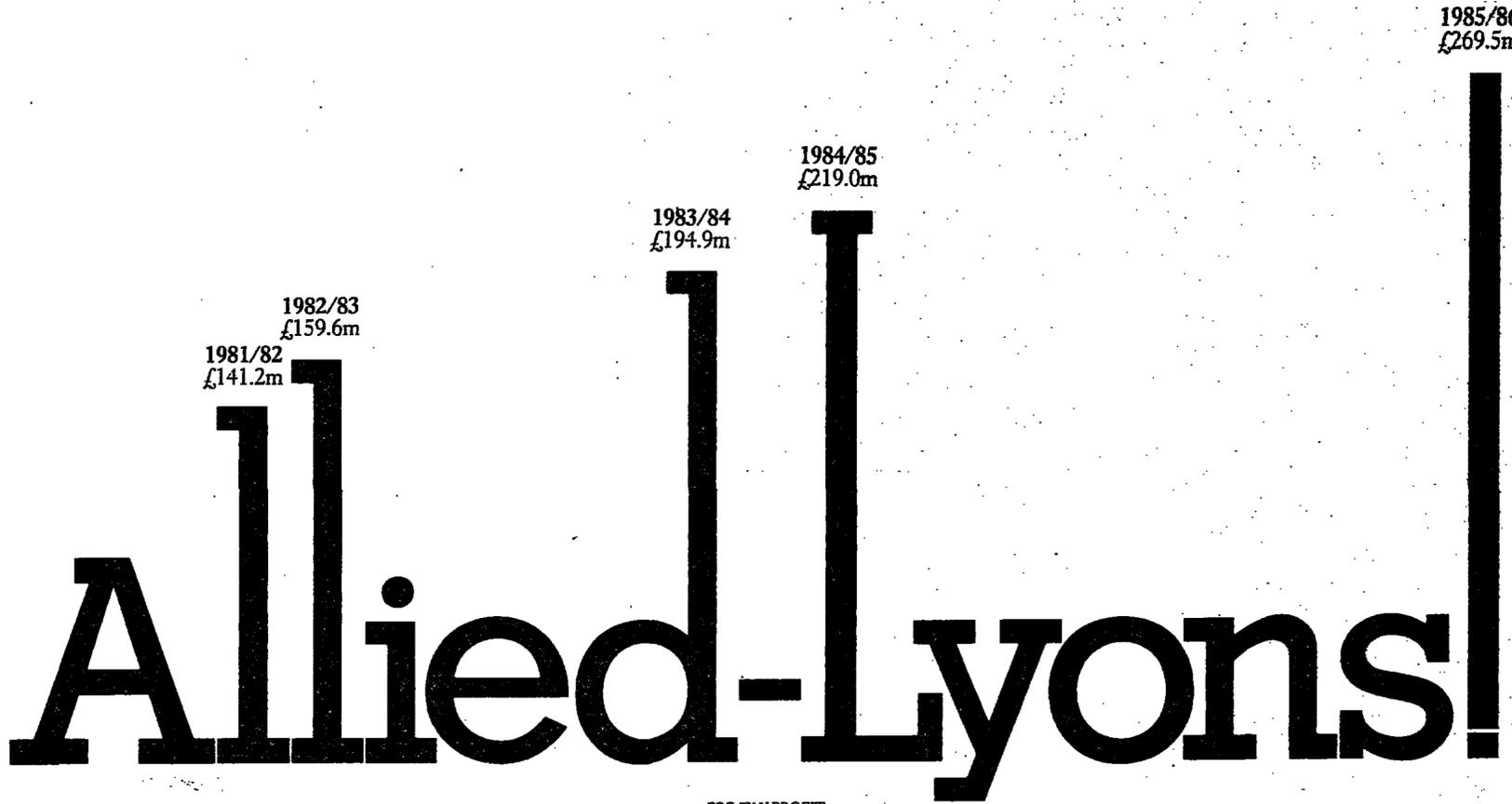
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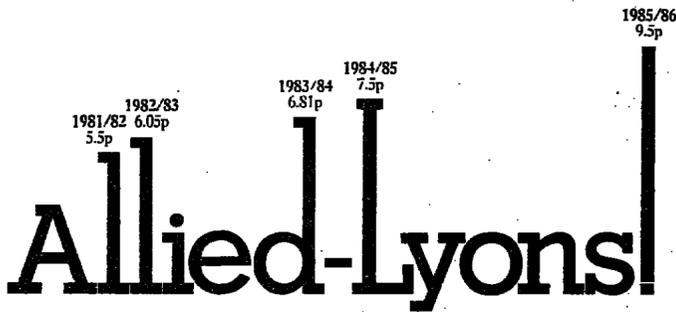
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Even the prophets will be pleased with this profit.



PRE-TAX PROFIT

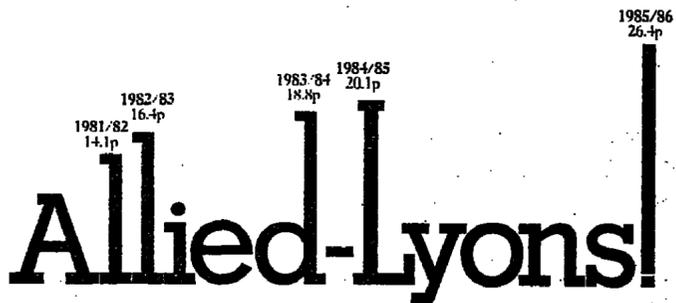
Not many would have predicted that our pre-tax profit would rise from £219m to £269.5m. Even a forecast based on last year's excellent growth would have been well below this year's increase of 23%. And would our shareholders have foretold their fortunes? The record dividend per share will be 9.5p. That's an increase of nearly 27% on last year. This shows our confidence in the future.



DIVIDENDS PER SHARE

Our spirits were raised even higher this year, not to mention our wines. The more we invest in our pubs, restaurants and off-licences, the more customers went into them. Our beer went down so well that our profit went up.

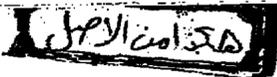
People have also been enjoying more of our food in the U.K. and abroad, (especially in North America). In fact our food division has been savouring a remarkable increase in profit for six years running.



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Saraw... Solidarity

...to the... trade... the F.I.C.

Socialist majority offers Spain stability

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

The absolute majority of seats won by the Socialist Party for the second time running in Sunday's general election gives Spain a reasonable assurance of four years of stability.

But the electors' essentially cautious verdict, everywhere outside the Basque country, brought no nearer the creation of a viable alternative to Señor Felipe González, still aged only 44, who is soon to be asked by King Juan Carlos to form his third Socialist Government.

"We have Felipe González, just about as charismatic as Maradona, getting his way with the Spanish people over an absolute majority in Parliament just after winning the referendum on Nato. The right here has a very long way still to go to make itself sufficiently attractive," a Spanish businessman said yesterday.

Señor González faces no problem from the 184 Socialist members in Parliament, well drilled and still eight more than required for a majority in the 350-seat lower house.

They tower over the 105 MPs led by Señor Manuel Fraga, whose right-wing Popular Alliance evidently failed singularly in the electors' eyes to exploit the advantages of being the chief opposition to the Socialists, and even lost one seat compared with October 1982. But Señor Fraga, characteristically, seized upon voters' loyalty to declare that there was less justification than ever for his thinking of stepping down. He is 63.

The Socialist victory showed a majority of voters responding to Señor González's claims of providing firm and stable government in the na-

tional interest, the key idea of his election campaign.

Señor Alfonso Guerra, the Socialist deputy leader, observed after victory that "no precedent exists in Europe for a party which has governed alone with an absolute majority to repeat a success like this".

But a protest did surface, with the Socialists losing 18 MPs compared to 1982, an increase of almost 10 per cent in abstentions and the comeback of Señor Adolfo Suárez who, in a personal triumph, won 19 seats in the new Parliament.

The bid by Spain's badly-fractured Communist Party, which opened itself up to form the so-called United Left after the Nato referendum, to exploit Socialist supporters' disillusionment only partially came off. This Socialist left grouping obtained seven seats, three up on last time.

Señor Suárez now claims that he will be back in the Prime Minister's office by 1990, after trouncing the Socialists at the head of a progressive centre party.

But his new MPs look a motley group, and apart from the five elected in Madrid the rest come from backward parts of Spain, such as the Canaries and Castile.

Señor Suárez has acknowledged a certain kinship between his party and another, vaguely centrist protest force, the Democratic Renewal Party of former President Eanes of Portugal. The problems that party now faces are not a good omen for Señor Suárez.

But, although a poor parliamentarian, Señor Suárez has promised that he will be constantly in Parliament, making the Socialist Government aware of acute social



Señor González raising his arms in victory at a Madrid hotel after the Socialist Party won the general elections.

issues, primarily unemployment.

In Andalusia, where there were elections as well for the regional Parliament, the Socialists also retained an absolute majority, getting 60 seats out of the 109.

But the advance of the right, which won 11 extra seats, served to underline Señor Fraga's failure in Madrid. Similarly, the advance from

eight to 19 seats by a forceful local Communist leader contrasted with the performance of his party at national level.

In the Basque country the advance of the extreme left-wing nationalist Herri Batasuna (People's Unity) coalition, the political wing of Eta, which took five seats, sent shock waves through both Madrid and Vitoria. It won only one fewer than the

Basque Nationalist Party, which governs the autonomous region.

Herri Batasuna announced immediately that it would continue its policy of boycotting the Madrid Parliament.

In Spain's other historic autonomous region, Catalonia, the Socialists, while they remain the biggest party, suffered losses in the face of

another advance by nationalist forces.

The Reformist Party's failure to win any seats in the rest of Spain, except one in Galicia, gets close to the heart of Spain's problem of finding a viable future alternative.

In the more developed parts of Spain, such as Catalonia and the Basque country, it is the nationalist parties which are strong.

Paris murder wave claims 11th victim

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The murder in Paris at the weekend of Mme Marthe Hervé, aged 79, in her luxury flat in the 8th arrondissement, has brought to 11 the number of old women living alone in the capital who have been killed in their homes since the beginning of the year.

Four murders have been committed over the past 10 days. In each case, the only motive appears to have been petty theft.

Since 1984, when the wave of killings began, a total of 29 old women have been murdered. Police believe that the same man, probably a drug addict, is responsible for at least a third of the murders, in which certain common characteristics have been noticed.

In each case, telephone wires have been pulled out and the flat ransacked, but usually only cash taken.

Most of the women have been in their seventies or eighties. Often they have been found with their hands and legs bound after being suffocated, strangled, stabbed or beaten to death.

All were living on their own, and it has sometimes been days before the death was discovered.

Paris is particularly prone to this kind of attack, having more than its share of lonely old people.

There are nearly 250,000 women over the age of 65 living in the city, representing 11 per cent of the 2.2 million population. One out of two people lives alone.

Although there are no precise figures on how many old women live on their own, a recent study showed that 79 per cent of the 41,000 women aged 80 to 84 in the capital lived alone.

International grouping to study Peru deaths

Lima (AFP) — The Socialist International meeting here has set up a commission to study last week's crushing by the Peruvian military of prison riots, as more guerrilla attacks were reported in Lima.

One guerrilla was killed and three wounded in a police chase after they threw a bomb into a Lima restaurant on

Sunday, the police said.

In a separate incident on Sunday, two members of the European Parliament, a Frenchman and a Belgian woman, with a Canadian woman who were all attending the Socialist International conference, were among customers in a Lima restaurant forced to leave by guerrillas.

SPANISH GENERAL ELECTION

Official results with 99.9 per cent of the votes counted (October '82 figures in brackets):

	Seats	% vote
Socialists	184 (202)	44 (46)
Popular Coalition	105 (106)	26 (25)
Democratic and Social Centre	19 (2)	4 (2)
Convergence (of Catalonia)	18 (12)	4 (3)
United Left	7 (4)	1 (1)
Basque Nationalist Party	6 (8)	1.5 (1.9)
Herri Batasuna	5 (2)	1.1 (0.9)
Basque Left	2 (1)	0.5 (0.4)

The official turnout was given as 70.7 per cent, compared with 73.8 in 1982. One seat each was won by regional parties in Aragón, Canaries, Galicia and Valencia.

Warsaw turns heat on Solidarity leaders

From Roger Boyce, Warsaw

The Polish authorities, determined to hunt down the Solidarity underground, have now turned their attention to the banned union's above-ground representatives, and have called in for interrogation Mr Lech Walesa, the Nobel Peace Prize winner, his confessor, Father Henryk Jankowski, and his main adviser, Dr Bronislaw Geremek.

At the same time, the official media are trying to enmesh the Solidarity movement with Western intelligence agencies.

Polish television broadcast an interview with a Warsaw physiotherapist and masseur, Mr Bogdan Charyton, who is accused of spying for the United States since the Solidarity era.

Mr Charyton was shown identifying a US diplomat, Mr Stephen Mull, as his contact — "I have met him twice" — and the PAP news agency linked Mr Mull with Mr Walesa, Father Jankowski, Dr

Geremek and a student activist, Mr Jacek Leskow.

Mr Mull was a second secretary with a watching brief over opposition activities in Poland. Neither he nor the embassy has made any comment on the charges.

Mr Walesa and Dr Geremek are due to be interrogated today and Father Jankowski was questioned yesterday. Dr Geremek has been interrogated several times over the past fortnight and, although he is obliged to stay silent about the content of the questioning, it is assumed that the authorities are trying to establish connections between the academic and Mr Zbigniew Bajak, the underground Solidarity leader, caught earlier this month.

Warsaw claims to have found "espionage material" in Mr Bajak's hiding place.

This may be to discredit Solidarity in the eyes of Poles, but more likely it is a way of demonstrating impeccable socialist credentials before the Communist Party congress next week.

The Soviet version of the Solidarity era has always been, publicly at least, that a group of counter-revolutionaries, subsidised by the CIA, misled the honest Polish working class. The Polish authorities now hope to demonstrate that the Soviet analysis is correct.

● Priest questioned: Father Jankowski was questioned by Warsaw police about his links with Mr Mull for two and a half hours yesterday, the priest said (Reuter reports).

Israelis to get new trade link with the EEC

Paris (Reuter) — Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister, joined Mr Jacques Chirac, the French Prime Minister, yesterday for the launch of an Israeli-European Chamber of Commerce.

Diplomatic sources said the new trade chamber, based in Paris, would bolster economic ties between Israel and the 12 members of the EEC, and tighten political links across the Mediterranean.

But the visit may have wider political significance, coming after the release last weekend of two French journalists held hostage in the Lebanon.

Mr Shamir will meet President Mitterrand and the Foreign Minister, M Jean-Bernard Raimond, today.

He said he had cut his stay in Paris from three to two days because of an internal security scandal involving Israel's Shin Beth security police and the deaths of two Palestinians.

Waiter tells of killing on Achilles Lauro

Genoa (AP) — A Portuguese waiter and an Italian hairdresser who were on the Achilles Lauro liner when it was hijacked last year said yesterday that a gunman forced them to dump overboard the body and wheelchair of an elderly American.

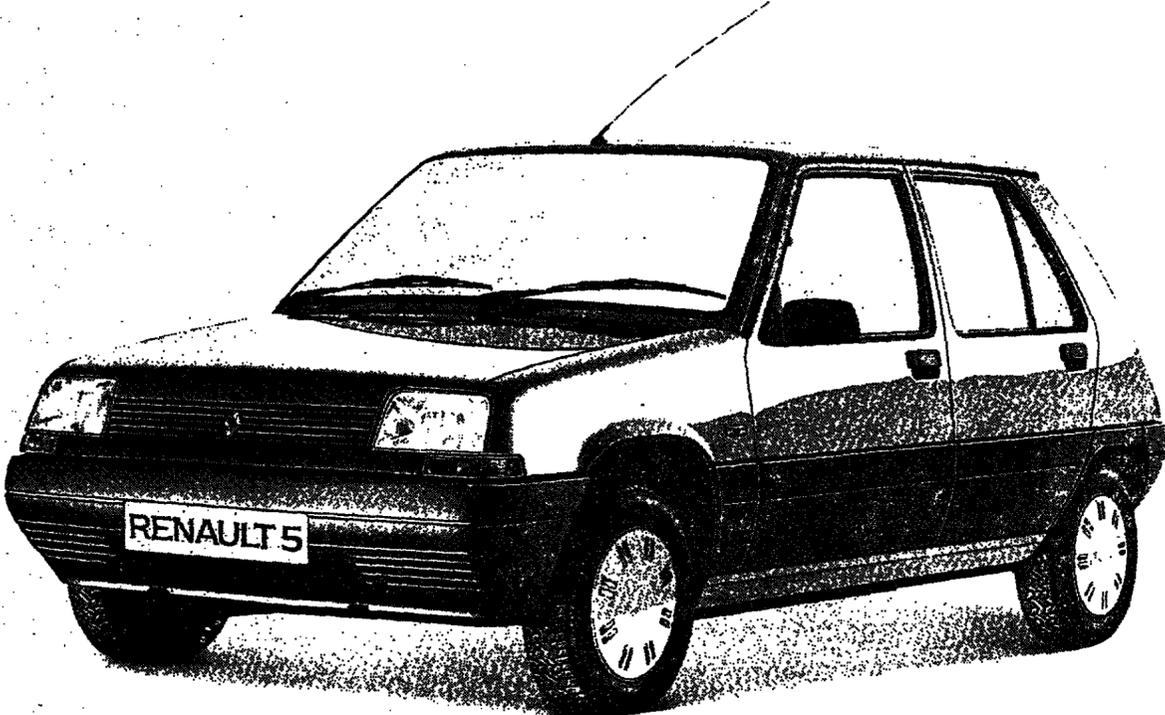
The waiter then identified Youssef Magied al-Moqi, one of the defendants in the court here, as the man who gave them the order.

Señor Manuel de Souza told the court trying the accused hijackers and 12 other defendants that he was summoned and ordered to bring Leon Klinghoffer in his wheelchair to the deck.

Minutes later he heard shots, and was summoned again, this time to throw Mr Klinghoffer's body into the sea off the Syrian coast. When he arrived on deck Mr Klinghoffer was already dead.

Señor de Souza said he and Signor Ferruccio Alberti, the hairdresser, threw the body into the sea.

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CONSUMERS TO PAY ANOTHER 10% TAX.

The Government – elected on a tax-cutting platform, you may remember – is about to raise a new 10% tax.

That tax, and the costs associated with it, will push up the price of a blank audio tape by as much as 20%.

The Government is calling the new tax a 'levy.'

Consumers will be liable to pay the Tape Levy whatever their reasons for buying a blank tape.

The Government says that home taping is illegal under existing law but nothing can be done to prevent it. Therefore the law is an ass.

Agreed.

But what the Government proposes will only serve to turn the law into a donkey.

Most people tape their own records to protect their record collection or make it more portable. They have already paid a copyright fee in the original purchase price.

Yet blank audio tapes will automatically be taxed, or, rather, levied.

And the proceeds will go, in the main, to the record companies and the music publishers. And they're rich enough already. (The VAT man will, of course, snaffle up his fair share of the pickings along the way.)

Although every consumer may have to pay the tax, the greatest sufferers will be the young, who buy more blank tapes than the rest of us.

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SPY/10/20

Treholt foiled in bizarre bid to break out of Oslo prison

From Tony Samstag, Oslo

The interminable, convoluted case of Arne Treholt, the Norwegian junior minister and diplomat jailed last year for espionage, took its most bizarre turn yesterday with the disclosure of a plan for him to escape and flee to Africa.

Police were holding two suspects, a 17-year-old girl identified only as a Norwegian drug addict, and a Gambian fellow-prisoner near the end of a five-year drug-smuggling sentence.

Two other people, including a journalist who alerted police to the escape plan, and Treholt's brother Einar, were questioned and released at the weekend.

The escape plan was intended to enable Treholt, aged 43, to pursue his quest to clear his name from the relative safety of Gambia or a nearby country, perhaps Senegal.

A flat in Oslo had been set up as a temporary hide-out, a car ordered from a Swedish dealer and false passports arranged.

It was clear from documents discovered in the possession of the Gambian that the ill-assorted group had no apparent intention of making for any Soviet bloc country.

Treholt, who had planned his escape for Saturday night, when many guards at the medium-security Ela prison near Oslo were watching television, is said to have fainted when told on Friday that he was being moved to the maximum-security jail at Ullevmoen.

The journalist, Mr Egil Ulstein, tipped off police after asking a psychiatrist whether the prisoner was really serious about his escape plan.

The documents detailing the scheme came to light when the Gambian was stopped at the prison gates at the weekend as he set off on special leave, to go to a mosque.

They showed that the would-be fugitives had hoped to set up an import-export business in Africa to support themselves and to finance the attempt to clear Treholt's name.

Treholt's car, bought in the Gambian's name, was to have been waiting outside the barred wire at Ela on Saturday night, and the escape route was to have been via Sweden and Madrid. Disguises were to have been worn, but details are sketchy other than that Treholt was to have removed his glasses.

Last month Treholt suddenly called off a High Court appeal against his 20-year sentence two weeks into the hearing, which was expected to last eight weeks.

He announced his decision in court and said it was because he had despaired of finding justice in Norway.

One of his lawyers, Mr Alf Nordhus, said yesterday that the bungled escape plan demonstrated yet again how unlikely it was that his client could have functioned effectively as any kind of spy.

Treholt was head of the Foreign Ministry press section, and thought to be one of the rising stars in the Government. He was arrested in January 1984 at Oslo airport as he prepared to board a flight to Vienna, where he allegedly planned to meet a member of the KGB. Police said his briefcase was bulging with 66 classified documents.

He has steadfastly maintained his innocence, as has his family, and it is certain that the events of the weekend will not be the end of the story.

Penang Governor to rule on hanging appeal

From M G G Pillai, Kuala Lumpur

Hopes were raised slightly yesterday for two Australian drug traffickers sentenced to be hanged in Malaysia, when the lawyer for British-born John Kevin Barlow, aged 29, asked for their executions to be delayed while he argued a fresh appeal.

Tan Awang Hassan, the Governor of Penang, has indicated that he would rule on that appeal later today, but legal sources thought the pair, Barlow and Brian Chambers, aged 28, were clenching at straws.

Mr Karpal Singh, Barlow's lawyer, argues that since the Attorney-General, who is also the Public Prosecutor, sat on the Pardons Board that rejected the clemency petition, it should have heard counter-arguments from the condemned men's lawyers.

Previous attempts to stop executions on constitutional grounds have not succeeded, and there is no reason to believe that this one will.

That appears to be registering with Mrs Barbara Barlow and Mrs Sue Chambers, the mothers of the condemned men, who seem to have resigned themselves to the fate of their sons.

The two women and Michelle, Barlow's sister, aged 17, arrived here on Saturday, and were told that the Pardons Board had rejected the clemency petitions earlier that day. Under normal circumstances the death sentences would be carried out about five days later.

The three women have been meeting Barlow and Chambers in Kuala Lumpur's overcrowded Padu prison.

Yesterday Mrs Barlow and Mrs Chambers saw their sons for 4½ hours.

When they left Mrs Barlow said outside the prison gates: "He is calm. Collected. He is an extremely brave boy."



Mrs Sue Chambers knocking at the door of Padu prison yesterday, on her second visit to her son, who faces execution.

Australian jail offer to Malaysia

From Tony Dubodoin, Melbourne

Mr Brian Burke, the Premier of Western Australia, has teleaxed the Malaysian Government asking for Barlow and Chambers to be sent to Western Australia to serve life sentences without remission, which would mean 20 years in jail.

Mr Burke's plea came as Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, admitted that there was nothing further the Australian Government could do to save the two from the gallows.

"The Government has done all it can, it has made its representation to the Malaysian Government," he said. "Mr Hayden (the Foreign Minister) did that strongly."

"I would still hope that something could be done within the Malaysian process, but there is nothing more the Australian Government can do."

Curfew on tourist island as mobs riot

Bangkok (Reuter, AP) — Mr Prem Tinsulanonda, the Thai Prime Minister, declared a state of emergency on Phuket Island after mobs put an ore refinery, vehicles and a luxury hotel to the torch and stormed Government buildings.

The riots on the popular tourist island grew out of an anti-refinery protest by up to 100,000 people. The protesters claimed the plant would pollute the environment.

Mr Prem imposed dusk-to-dawn curfew on Phuket "to protect lives and property... and for the security and safety of the kingdom," Radio Thailand announced.

Police reinforcements were rushed in and military units placed on standby. But there were no reports of casualties.

The Industry Minister, Mr Chirayu Isarakun Na Ayuthaya, was evacuated as protesters surged out of control and blocked fire engines from reaching the burning areas. He was flown by helicopter to the nearby town of Had Yai.

The plant is to produce tantalum, a metallic chemical element used to make various electronic components.

A tour bus in front of the Merlin Hotel was among seven vehicles set on fire.

Gandhi in pact with rebel tribe

Delhi (AP) — Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, has reached a draft peace agreement with the leader of rebel tribesmen in Mizoram state, All-India Radio reported yesterday.

The settlement with Laldenga, chief of the underground separatist movement in the northern Indian state, would be signed after the Cabinet had approved the draft.

Laldenga, who opened talks with the Government after returning from exile in England this year, said the two sides were on the brink of signing the settlement.

News reports said the pact would give Laldenga's Mizo National Front effective political control of Mizoram. In exchange, Laldenga would halt violence.

Last year, Mr Gandhi signed separate agreements with Sikh moderates and anti-immigrant agitators in Assam.

Inspectors in Japan radiation accident

Tokyo (AP, UPI) — Twelve people, including inspectors of the International Atomic Energy Agency, were "slightly" contaminated by plutonium yesterday.

They were inspecting a plutonium storeroom of the Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development Corporation, owned by the Japanese Government, at Tokaimura, north-east of Tokyo.

A corporation official said the Japanese were sealing a stainless can containing plutonium, witnessed by the IAEA.

The official said employees were investigating how plutonium leaked from the can. The amount of radiation to which the 12 were exposed was "very low" and was not believed to be dangerous.

● MOSCOW: Workers toiling to build a concrete slab under the ruined No. 4 reactor at the Chernobyl nuclear plant have completed the task three days ahead of schedule, according to Soviet radio (AP reports).

Protests at Punjab killings

Amritsar (AP) — Sikh extremists killed a retired army colonel and stabbed to death two Hindus in hit-and-run attacks in Punjab, police said yesterday.

The stabbing of one Hindu youth yesterday outside a Sikh shrine in Amritsar started rioting and arson. Police wielding batons dispersed crowds hurling stones.

A curfew remained in the old section of Amritsar, the Sikh holy city. It was imposed over the weekend after police shot and killed one demonstrator and wounded two others during a general strike called by Hindus in protest against Sikh terrorism.

State police reported three other extremist attacks overnight in Punjab.

Rajinder Singh, a retired Sikh colonel, was shot dead in his house in Gurdaspur district, bordering Pakistan. In Amritsar, a Hindu was killed by militants armed with spears and swords, a police spokesman said.

The Indian Interior Minister, Mr Buta Singh, met the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in Delhi yesterday and reportedly discussed ways to stem the violence.

● DELHI: Mr Gandhi yesterday urged Punjab's Chief Minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, to restore order and expressed concern at the flight of Hindus terrorized by Sikh gunmen (Reuter reports).

Nigeria delays judgement on two Britons

Lagos (Reuter) — A Lagos appeal court yesterday deferred judgement until Thursday on an appeal by two British engineers jailed for 14 years each for conspiracy and theft of an executive jet.

Kenneth Clark, aged 39, and Angus Patterson, aged 41, have been held since May 1984, when they were arrested for servicing the jet before it was flown out of Nigeria in defiance of a military regulation grounding private planes.

Judge Philip Nnamaka-Agu said judgement in the appeal heard on April 22 was "not quite ready".

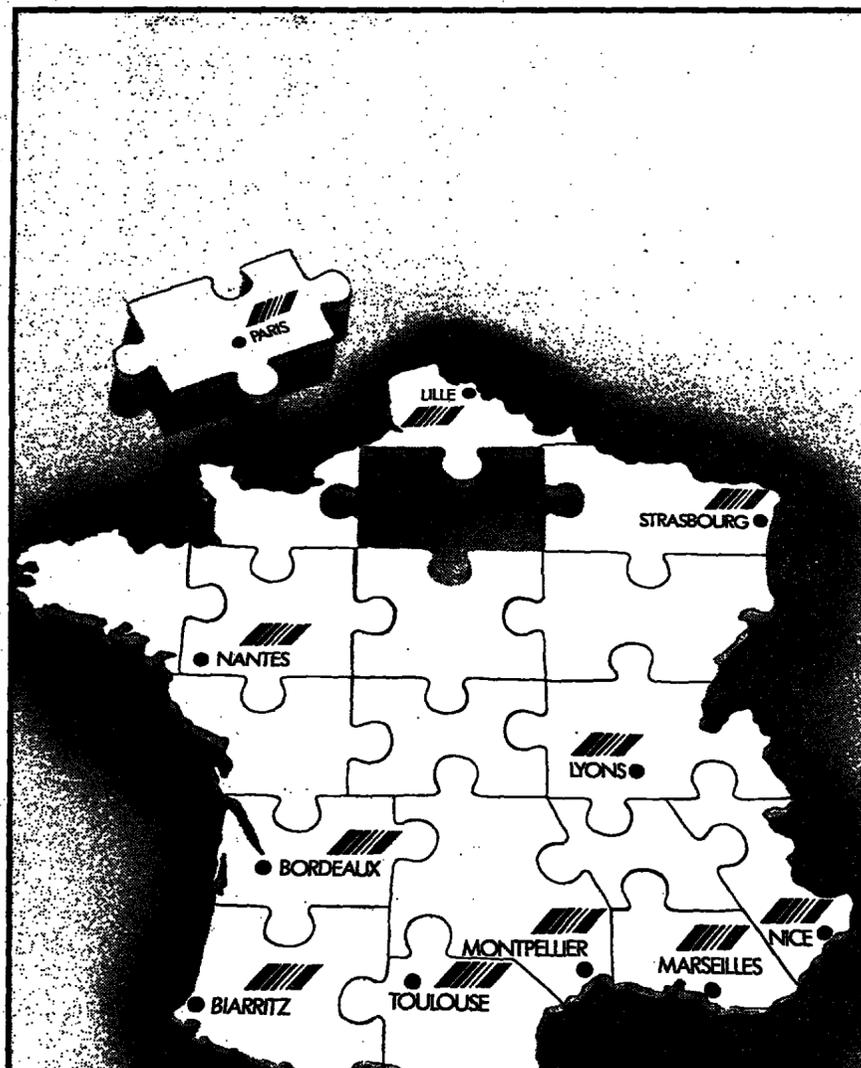
Aquino scolds Asean for its poor record

Manila (Reuter) — President Aquino of the Philippines criticized the Association of South-East Asian Nations yesterday at the start of a meeting of the grouping's foreign ministers.

"After 19 years of existence, Asean should already be evaluating the impact of the regional economic co-operation instead of endlessly discussing how to get it off the ground," she said.

The "seeming indifference of the rich countries to our economic situation" should have prompted Asean to look after "the region's interests."

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Nakasone on the campaign trail

Leader in his element

From David Watts Kofu, Japan

When the Japanese Prime Minister goes on the campaign trail there seems to be only one issue in the general election - Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone and his record.

And in truth there is little else at issue, even in the eyes of the Opposition, which consistently contests the man rather than the party, thereby contributing to the strength of the Nakasone image.

In the heartland of the Liberal Democratic Party's territory the Prime Minister sometimes sounds as though the achievements of the Nakasone administration were all his own work.

Despite protestations that he has no interest in serving as party president and Prime Minister beyond October, when he is on the hustings the real, the political Mr Nakasone, comes out: "Please let me continue with the work I started three-and-a-half years ago. Please let me set the road for Japan for the 21st century," he told a small, mid-morning crowd in the centre of this medium-sized town.

Kofu should be safe LDP country. Its political "godfather" is the secretary-general of the party, Mr Shin Kanemaru.

It is largely agricultural; vineyards seem to cover every spare inch, including a used car garage, and stretch to the very foot of the mountains which surround the town.

In the 1983 election, though, the LDP dropped one of the four seats it usually wins here, and if the party is to regain control of all Diet committees and rid itself of dependence on a coalition partner it must reach its full potential in places like Kofu.

There are generous compliments to Mr Kanemaru for his help for the Prime Minister, and one of the customary self-effacing comments - "his handling of the opposition parties allowed a clumsy man like me to maintain his position as Prime Minister" which seem somewhat out of place coming from a Prime Minister confident and fresh after a drive of almost two hours from Tokyo.

He does not hesitate to drop all the famous names he has met during his term of office: Mr Gorbachov, Mr Reagan and Mrs Thatcher, even the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales is used to

impress the voters of Yamaguchi prefecture. There are not many of them, though: 500 people on a car park in the centre of town, mostly office workers taking a little time off work.

Mr Nakasone's public popularity seems to rest on his ability to deal with such foreigners and to give Japan a world image commensurate with its economic power.

But one cannot help getting a sneaking feeling that such things as the Maekawa report on the re-structuring of the Japanese economy came up in his morning press conference because a contingent of foreign journalists was along with the Prime Minister.

Such international issues and big names have precious little to do with a town like Kofu, and whether the Socialists can be driven from one or both of the two seats they hold here will depend more on Mr Kanemaru's ability to deliver

local goodies than Mr Nakasone's high-level international connexions.

"Overhauling" post-war Japan is the Prime Minister's main theme, but the local journalists are more interested in whether plans are progressing for a new highway which would link the Sea of Japan coast and the Pacific coast.

They want to know, too, if a new linear railcar line will run through Kofu, linking it with Tokyo and the central city of Nagoya.

These are the sort of issues that bring in the votes. Mr Nakasone does not have concrete news on either point but the road scheme should be addressed in a forthcoming land development plan, he says.

The Prime Minister has conditionally agreed to a plan for a television debate with the leaders of the opposition parties.

The challenge was made by Mr Masashi Ishibashi, leader of the Socialist Party, but Mr Nakasone wants the affair to be a man-to-man confrontation with the head of each party rather than the panel debate Mr Ishibashi had in mind.

He also wants the range of issues expanded from five to 10 in order to take in some which can only embarrass his principal opponent, not least of which is the question of nuclear power policy in Japan, over which the Socialists are badly divided.



Mr Nakasone meditating in a Zen Buddhist temple in Tokyo after returning from an election campaign tour.

Economic forecast a blow to Hawke

Sydney (Reuters) - Australian manufacturers predicted economic gloom for the rest of the year yesterday, as opposition mounted to the austerity programme of Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister.

The Confederation of Australian Industry (CAI) said its latest survey showed that business confidence and investment prospects were at their lowest level since Mr Hawke came to power three years ago.

A majority of manufacturing companies reported a significant drop in production for the first time in three years, and the situation was expected to get worse, the survey said.

Economists said the pessimistic business expectations were a blow to the Government, which had been counting on a revival in manufacturing to help reduce the nation's increasing balance-of-payments deficit and relieve the external debt burden and the battered Australian dollar.

Meanwhile, the left-dominated Victoria state branch of Mr Hawke's Australian Labor Party unanimously rejected his appeal for wage and other restraints as part of an austerity drive.

Officials of the Australian Council of Trade Unions said they would not be able to control their members if Mr Hawke pursued his plan to grant only half the expected wage increases this year.

Mr Brian Howe, the Minister for Social Security, said an important wages agreement among unions, Government and industry was at stake and the Government would lose the next elections if it collapsed.

Ugandans touched by plight of ape boy

Kampala (UPI) - A four-year-old war orphan in Uganda, found in a tribal killing ground after surviving on a diet of grass and roots, walks like an ape and has not spoken in nine months.

The plight of the matchstick-limbed child was shown on Ugandan television after a visit to his Kampala orphanage by Mrs Janet Museveni, wife of the President.

After the programme, dozens of Ugandans turned up at the home, apparently to offer help. But the young child, whom the staff call Robert, lives in a twilight world of his own.

"We don't expect him ever to lead a normal life," said his nurse, Sarah Lubega. "He eats grass or is seen gnawing bits of wood, often acting like an animal."

The boy has not uttered anything other than a high-pitched, monotone wail since he was found by soldiers nine months ago in the Lower Triangle war zone.

He refuses to stand, crouching on his heels, knees tucked under his chin. He "walks" in a crawl, swinging on his knuckles.

Staff cannot get him to wear shoes or socialize with others. He tears most clothes he is offered to shreds with his teeth, though occasionally he tolerates a loose shirt.

Every known Ugandan language has been tried on him. There is no response. Robert squats day in, day out, staring at his surroundings, his eyes glazed in an expression of total disinterest.

Anarchists say they started Athens fire

From A Correspondent, Athens

An anarchist movement claimed responsibility for a fire on Monday that destroyed two offices of Greece's ruling party, the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok), police said. It was the second arson attack this month on Pasok targets in Athens by left-wing extremists.

Fire broke out at 5.40 am local time in a Pasok building in central Athens, gutting the fifth-floor offices of Pasok's regional government headquarters and the sixth-floor offices of its youth movement newspaper, Agonists.

Police said it was caused by an undetermined liquid substance and did damage valued at about 15 million drachmas (£720,000).

In a call to a local newspaper, a group called Anarchistic Actions said it started the fire. The group first surfaced when it claimed responsibility for a similar blaze at the offices of the weekly party organ Exormissis on June 1.

Cold comfort for consumers as import houses cash in

From Our Own Correspondent, Tokyo

Cheaper imports, holidays and a glow of national pride generally overcome countries with skyrocketing currencies. Not so Japan. Ever since the yen took off in September most Japanese have had little positive to say about the country's new-found monetary strength.

The only voices to be heard tend to be half-strangled cries from small and medium industries. The great beneficiaries, the trading houses and importers of raw materials, say nothing and the poor Japanese consumer takes what he or she is given.

And what the Japanese consumer is getting out of the strong yen is exceedingly modest, given the strength of the currency and the expectations that such strength is likely to generate abroad in terms of

Problems of the soaring yen Part 2

as the Liberal Democratic Party is safely returned after the election it is likely to show its appreciation with a tax increase.

Certainly some prices of imported consumer goods have eased down: some brands of Scotch are now cheaper, while importers of others argue that it is better to use the extra money to build increased market share rather than cut prices.

But while a Japanese camera can be bought more cheaply in London than in Tokyo, boxed English tea on a Tokyo supermarket shelf costs four times its London price, and a box of Weatbix which sells for 74 pence in Britain is £3 in Tokyo.

Many foreign imports sell on the strength of their exotic qualities and a high price, but there are signs that the stronger yen is giving a boost to the

smaller trading houses, which can react more quickly to changes in prices.

The big trading firms often strike back at the smaller fry by putting pressure on banks to stop their loans, but one example of a smaller firm actually forcing a big one to reduce its prices is the case of imported olive oil, the price of which is now lower than it was five years ago.

An example much closer to the hearts of both Japanese and foreign consumers is Coca-Cola.

Coca-Cola bottled or canned in the United States is now cheaper than Coke bottled in Japan; the Japanese subsidiary is likely to have a difficult time this summer if many smaller firms take up parallel imports.

British cars are having an exceptionally good year, with sales of Minis up 100 per cent

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LES BARKER

For 22 years, the poet Armando Valladares was the victim of the Castro regime's gaolers and torturers . . . extracts from his prison memoirs begin today

Light of hope in Cuba's darkness

Armando Valladares, law student, poet, sculptor and painter, was an opponent of the regime of President Fulgencio Batista, which was overthrown by Fidel Castro's revolution in 1959. But on December 28, 1960, he was arrested for publishing criticisms of Cuba's close links with the Soviet Union, though he was in fact charged with illegal possession of firearms and explosives. After a two-hour trial, on January 15, 1961, he was convicted and sentenced to 30 years in prison for "offences against the state authorities". He was aged 23.

After his conviction, Señor Valladares was sent to the prison on Isla de Pinos, but later he was moved — together with other "probationary prisoners", the "plantados", who refused to submit to the rehabilitation programmes administered by the prison authorities — to La Cabana, and later still to the notorious Boniato jail, where isolation and appalling conditions have led to repeated prison

uprisings. A protracted starvation diet, and the absence of all proper medical care, left him paralysed for several years, and it was not until 1980 that he was allowed the use of a wheelchair sent to him by Amnesty International. When, in 1978, the Cuban government announced a general amnesty for many hundreds of political prisoners, Armando Valladares was not among them.

Deprived of paper, Valladares wrote on torn-off margins of the official newspaper, *Granma*, and the pieces were smuggled out of prison in dirty laundry. Three volumes of verse and letters were published, the best known of them a book of poems called *From My Wheelchair*, prompting European intellectuals to start a campaign for his release. In October 1982, after the personal intervention of President François Mitterrand and growing world pressure, Armando Valladares was freed. He had spent 22 years in prison. He now lives in Madrid.



Safe at last: Armando and Martha Valladares in Madrid, where they now live with their baby

'From our point of view, we have no human-rights problem — there have been no "disappeared" here, there have been no tortures here, there have been no murders here. In 25 years of revolution, in spite of the difficulties and dangers we have passed through, torture has never been committed, a crime has never been committed.'

Statements made by Fidel Castro to French and American journalists in the Palacio de la Revolución in Havana on July 28, 1983, and published in *Granma* two weeks later.

This book is my account of the 22 years spent in the political prisons of Cuba because I had said that I was opposed to the regime of Fidel Castro. I dedicate it to the memory of my companions murdered and tortured and to the victims who still remain in his 200 prisons.

I woke to the muzzle of a machine gun held to my temple. Three armed men were standing round my bed. "Where's the pistol?" As the man with the machine gun kept my head still, another slid his hand under it to check for that imaginary pistol I was supposed to be armed with. The oldest of them, a thin man with greying hair, told me to get dressed — I had to go with them. These were Castro's Political Police.

When I had my clothes on, they began the search of the house. They spent almost four hours going through everything. They opened jars and bottles, they went through the books page by page, they emptied toothpaste tubes. I tried to reassure my mother and sister that this must be some sort of mistake.

The search finally ended, and no weapons or explosives or propaganda lists had turned up. They had to leave empty-handed. Or almost empty-handed — they took me with them. They told my mother not to worry, I'd be right back. This was December 28, 1960 . . . my return would take more than 20 years.

Valladares was taken to the main headquarters of the Political Police, the Cuban "Lubyanka", where he was interrogated. Three days later he was taken by car across the bay from Havana, to the fortress of La Cabana.

Pedro Luis Boitel was the first person I met there. He had fought against Batista in the underground, and later had managed to flee to Venezuela, but he had returned when the dictator fell. We became great friends, as close as brothers.

Every night at La Cabana there were firing squads. Pedro Luis Villanueva and some other prisoners declared a hunger strike to protest against the shootings. They were taken out to the yard and carried to the chapels, which were now reserved for prisoners going to death.

Clodomiro Miranda, former commander of Fidel Castro's army, was also being held in that improvised death row. He had fought with great courage defending liberty and finally rose to the

rank of commander. Though he was not a man of great political consciousness, he could see clearly enough that the revolution was not taking the course that Fidel had promised for it. He took up his weapons again and went off once more into the mountains.

Castro ordered him hunted down, and thousands of militia were sent out to find him. When they captured him, his legs had been completely destroyed by bullets, in a skirmish. He was carried into his trial on a stretcher.

When they sentenced him to death he was taken out of the military hospital and locked up in one of the horrific cells without a bed. He was unable to stand up, so he had to drag himself along the filthy floor. His unattended wounds became infected; then they filled with maggots. That is how Pedro Luis and Manuel Villanueva, another inmate, found him. They were the last prisoners to speak with him.

They took Clodomiro down on a stretcher into the moat to the firing squad. One of the guards told us that they tried to tie him to the post, but he simply couldn't stand erect. They had to shoot him as he lay on the ground. When they shot him he cried, "Down with Communism!"

Thirteen days had passed since the morning I had been taken from my home and carried to the Ministry. In that short time the Political Police had prepared the whole case. I and some others, among them Oliver Obregon, my friend who was arrested with me, were to be tried on the same day.

In the courtroom we found a wooden platform with a long table set up on it. At the table the members of the tribunal were sitting talking among themselves, laughing, and smoking cigars, chomping on them in Pancho Villa style. They all wore military uniforms. It was one of those typical tribunals, made up of anybody at hand: this one was composed of labourers.

At the start of the trial, the president of the tribunal, Mario Tagle, put his feet up on his chair and opened a comic book. From time to time he turned to the men on each side of him and showed them some titbit that had struck him as particularly funny. They'd all laugh. And the sad truth was that paying any attention to the proceedings, even out of courtesy, was utterly unnecessary, and they knew it. The sentences had already

been decided on and written out at Political Police headquarters.

We had already been told by Obregon's defence attorney, Dr Aramis Taboada, who had connections inside State Security and who often defended political prisoners in the early 1960s, that there were not to be any death sentences handed down at our trial. One can imagine what a relief that was to all of us.

The prosecutor asked me two or three questions, largely related to my religious beliefs. He then turned to the president of the tribunal and told him that I was an enemy of the revolution who had committed the crimes of public destruction and sabotage.

But neither then nor later — because for 20 years I kept asking — could any of the authorities tell me where I had committed an act of public destruction. There was not one witness to accuse me, there was not a single piece of evidence against me. I was found guilty, simply out of the mistaken "conviction" held by the Political Police.

Early in 1959 Castro gave a speech in front of the Presidential Palace in which he declared: "There will not be more than about 400 henchmen and conspirators against the revolution executed." But many more than that had already fallen before the firing squads.

There were nights at La Cabana when there would be 10 or 12 executions. You would hear the bars of the man's cell door and someone coming to the bars to see his friend and cry out to him the last goodbye.

The corpses were taken to

Colon Cemetery, where they were buried in a common grave, without a marker. Their families did not even have the sad privilege of knowing where their loved ones were buried.

After the trial, Valladares was transferred, with more than 300 prisoners, to the notorious prison at Isla de Pinos — the "Model Prison".

We had heard a lot of talk about the prison we were being taken to, about the forced labour in the quarries, about the chilling searches in which some prisoners always wound up dead, and hundreds wounded by bayonets. We had also heard about the sinister dark punishment pavilions with their solitary-confinement cells.

W e came to a kind of basement where militiamen were already waiting for us before several piles of prison clothes. "All right! Get those clothes off, all of you! Everybody! Strip!" Everything was a rush, everything had to be done in a hurry, under the constant menace of being beaten or run through with a bayonet.

It is impossible to describe what I felt at that moment, standing there like that, naked, facing the wall, with the militiamen and guards laughing and making fun of us, cracking jokes about our nakedness.

Once the search and sacking of our possessions were done, each inmate was given a change of clothing. Those who wore small or medium were given large-sized clothes, and the big or fat men were given small sizes.

As we left we passed a poster on the basement wall with a thought

from Fidel Castro: "The revolution is greener than palm trees".

Since it was the common prisoners, supervised by a militiaman, that cooked the food for us, and since a revolutionary is defined by, among other things, his hostility and aggressiveness toward counter-revolutionaries, some dreadful things happened to our food.

On one occasion more than half the length of a thick cow intestine, rectum included, was floating on top of the soup. The intestine was still full of dung. Complaints were made to the soldier who was head of the kitchen, but he always shrugged off any personal responsibility for things that happened. We frequently found pieces of broken glass. One day the food they brought had dead rats in it.

One morning, at dawn, I heard machine guns rattle and the boom of cannons. I jumped to the window. On the peak of the hills the red-orange blaze of the batteries installed there lit up the early morning. Tracer shells scored the dark-blue sky. Almost directly above us, anti-aircraft shells were booming into black mushroom clouds, and through them floated a B-26 bomber, its silver fuselage gleaming in the morning sun as the explosions peppered and sputtered all along its path.

The Bay of Pigs invasion had begun. It was April 17, 1961.

That afternoon technicians and some soldiers arrived in several trucks and began unloading boxes. They filled the foundations of the central tower in the prison yard with a ton of TNT, thereby converting it into a four-storey fragmentation grenade of thick

concrete, whose explosion would generate tremendous heat and tons of shrapnel, and produce a shock wave more than sufficient to kill all 6,000 prisoners. We were informed officially that the dynamite would blow us up if there was another invasion attempt.

Knowing that we were sleeping on a mattress full of explosives destroyed many prisoners' nerves; some went completely mad or gave way to animal panic. On two nights we were awakened by the blood-curdling shrieks of prisoners who threw themselves over the sixth-floor railing into the prison yard below.

In October 1961, Valladares and Boitel along with two other prisoners managed to escape with the help of a common prisoner. They were recaptured because the people who were to pick them up in a boat did not believe that anyone could escape from Isla de Pinos, and so did not turn up for the arranged meeting. Valladares had broken a leg during the escape. On their return they were sent to the punishment cells.

They were already beating my friends. I heard the dry thud of the blows on their naked bodies and the cries and curses of the guards. Since the light bulb in the hallway was at their back, I didn't realize they were armed with thick twisted electric cables and truncheons. "Stand up, faggot!" One of the guards shouted as he raised his arm. Suddenly my head spun in terrible vertigo. They bent me over and exposed my back so he could beat me more easily. It felt as if they were branding me with a red-hot iron. Then I experienced the most intense, unbearable, and brutal pain of my life. One of the guards had jumped with all his weight on my broken, throbbing leg.

The next morning they welded the doors shut. Lieutenant Cruz, head of the Political Police, told Castro in his personal office that he had ordered it done.

In the brief respites between being prodded awake with a long pole pushed by a guard through the chain-link ceiling of the cell, I would sometimes fall into a deep sleep. Once a rat entered the cell. My inert body must have given

him courage. He began to chew on my fingers, gnawing at them voraciously. Perhaps I moved and he jumped away. But he came back. It was the guard who saved me.

As the weeks without bathing went on a dark, greasy, scablike layer of filth formed over every inch of my body. A fungus infection began to spread. My greatest concern was to avoid contracting hepatitis. I never touched my food with my hands, but ate like a dog, putting my snout into the plate. All that saved me from complete animality was the images that flooded my mind when I closed my eyes. I recreated the Biblical miracle of calling forth the light within me.

I had come to prison with some religious feeling, my faith was genuine but no doubt superficial, since it had never been submitted to hard trial. Very quickly I began to experience a substantial change in the nature of my beliefs. At first no doubt I embraced Christ out of the fear of losing my life, since I was certainly in danger of being shot at any time.

There came a moment when, seeing those young men for the first time at La Cabana depart full of courage to die before the firing squad and shout "Viva Cristo Rey!" I understood that Christ was indeed there for me when I prayed not to be killed. I realized that he gave my life, and my death, meaning. Both my life and my death would be dignified by my belief in him.

Christianity became, more than a religious faith, a way of life for me. Because of my situation it seemed my life would necessarily be a life of resistance, but I would be sustained in it by love and hope.

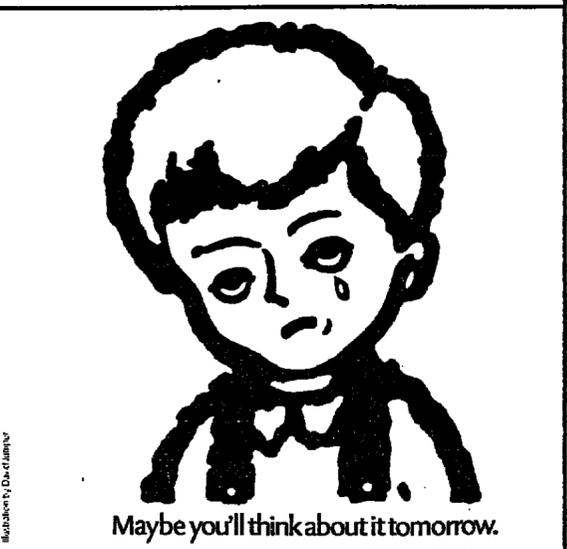
Extracted from *Against All Hope*, by Armando Valladares, published by Hamish Hamilton on July 7 (£12.95)

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TOMORROW

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Lore of the rings

Despite the blessings of radio-carbon, many prehistoric datings can be made only to within a century or two. Dendrochronology, the counting of tree-rings, has been used to calibrate the radio-carbon method, but the problem has always been to establish a sequence of rings in one particular timber. Now, however, Queen's University, Belfast, has announced a triumph: an unbroken sequence of Western European tree-rings dating back 7,272 years.

The chronology is based on deciduous oaks growing at low altitudes, which can be successfully cross-dated between Northern Ireland and north Germany. Later timbers are still in standing buildings, but many of the earlier ones come from bog oak dug from wetlands.

Michael Baillie, who led the research, describes the most exciting moment, which came on a train journey to Durham: "Somewhere on the Yorkshire moors we passed a heap of bog oaks. I had just written them off as being impossible to locate again, when we passed the junction of the A1(M) and the A689. This gave us a reference point, and in the

FINDINGS

An occasional series reporting on research: ARCHAEOLOGY

summer of 1981 I collected 20 samples. They yielded an 800-year chronology from 1150 to 350 BC which bridged the one big gap in the Irish oak chronology."

As a result of the reconciliation of the Irish and German sequences, there is now a strong case for worldwide uniformity of radio-carbon concentration in ancient wood. Baillie says. This, in turn, will make the accuracy of radio-carbon dating more reliable.

Semi-detached

A dramatic example of prehistoric recycling comes from Brittany, where, aeons ago, a massive prehistoric stone monument was broken up and one section moved more than two miles away.

The discovery was made during new excavations at the famous neolithic tomb of Gavrinis, which lies on a small island in the Gulf of Morbihan. The capstone of the chamber, uncovered during restoration work, had carvings on its upper surface which had been hidden since the tomb was built. These include an axe-plough nine feet long and a large cow or

JLP and the burials were discovered during the stripping of topsoil for an oil survey. Two skeletons were found in a central grave, together with a pottery vessel of "Bell Beaker" type (probably a beer mug), a copper dagger, an antler spatula, and two gold ornaments. Two more gold pieces were recovered from the 40 soil samples collected during excavations, together with 20 small beads made of an alumina silicate.

The gold objects, known colloquially as "ear-rings", consist of roughly oval sheets of gold with a projecting "tail". Each sheet was rolled into a cylinder with the "tail" wrapped round its middle. Linear decoration had been raised with a light punch on the face of each piece. As it would be difficult to insert the pieces into the earlobes, it is thought that braids of hair were pulled through the cylinders.

Dr Norman Hammond

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 984

ACROSS

- Positive balance (6)
- Bound (4)
- Instrument (5)
- Unrestrained (7)
- Small accordion (8)
- Water hole (4)
- Trafalgar Square monument (7,6)
- Print spacer (4)
- Elysian Fields flower (5)
- Make bigger (7)
- Horse contests (5)
- Let it stand (4)
- Deadlock (3,3)

DOWN

- Kingly (5)
- Indo grade (3)
- Black/cream/brown cat (1,3)
- Weak (4)
- Flat upland (7)
- Official announce-ment (10)
- Unskilled (10)
- Terrific fate (4)
- Bludgeon (4)
- Pamphlet (7)
- Bangladesh capital (5)
- Unruly child (4)
- Manipulate (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 983

ACROSS: 1 Khamir 4 Cockpit 8 Sonic 9 Muskrat 10 Aardvark 11 File 13 Pearl Harbor 17 Rose 18 Snuck bar 21 Zigzag 22 Fictu 23 Nigable 24 Xhosa

DOWN: 1 Kashmir 2 Minter 3 Recovery 4 Comprehensive 5 Cost 6 Bucko 20 Daub

TOP
spir
style

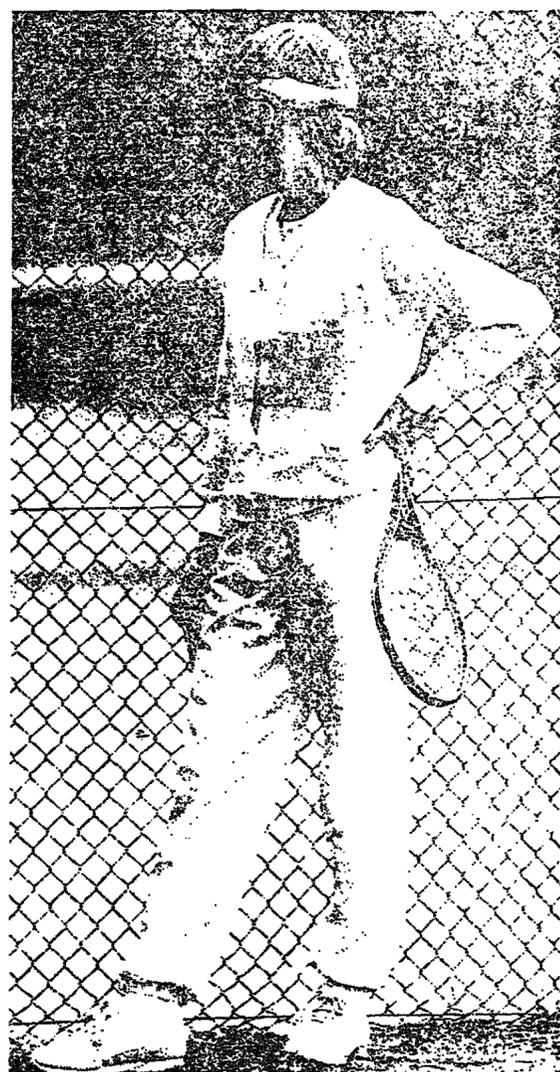


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FASHION by Suzy Menkes

Top spin style

Mixed doubles is the fashion look on court this season. Skirts, shorts and sporty tops make a winning team



Six years ago sporty looks raced through high fashion. Now style has come to sportswear. The action eighties have put top spin on the most classic designs. Stripes broad and narrow break up the expanses of plain white, and shorts, socks and sweatbands pick up colour and pattern.

Sportswear labels are the motifs of Wimbledon wearers, from Fred Perry's victory laurel wreath or Slazenger's prancing puma to Le Coq's crowing cockerel or the three striped leaves of Adidas. The status names bring out the fashion stories first, and this season they are slicing colour into their separates for graphic contrast with plain white.

Separates are the story for active sports designs, and the best of them mix together into a cocktail of clothes. For fair weather amateurs, this means that tennis clothes are not just seasonal garments emerging at Wimbledon and under wraps by September.

Shirts and shorts, track suit jackets and track pants all come together and divide up for other sports, for summer holidays, or even just for lounging at home.

The track suit was the first garment to make the two-way stretch between high energy clothing and leisure fashion. Choice of fabric is important to serious sports players, who may pick skinny pants for

running and looser ones for jogging. Soft shorts, based on the athletic training shorts and made in stretchy towelling, T-shirt or track suit cotton, are another development from track pants. These are the shorts that make action outfits for tennis and play suits for holiday beaches. The curved legs of the shorts, often decorated with a flash of colour, are matched to a shapely cap-sleeved T-shirt.

Apricot and blue, used together, are the high fashion shades of the season. But track suits come too in a wide range of pastels and in much stronger combinations like the yellow, scarlet and black of Adidas action wear.

The polo shirt — short sleeved, with collar and three buttons — is a 1980s classic and beloved by high fashion in plain white: the original Fred Perry piqué shirt is still being copied by high street stores after 34 years of sporting life. Lacoste has given the fashion world a taste of mouth-watering colour, traditionally in one solid shade with the crocodile motif snapping at the left breast. The polo shirt also comes up striped, flashed with colour across the sleeves or bisecting the torso in diagonals or squares. When the outfit is designed for tennis, a primrose or aqua blue stripe on the sleeve will be picked up discreetly in the waistband of shorts or edging a dress.

The more formal tennis

clothes for women are the tennis dresses, which are having a minor comeback, or the skirts which team with sports tops, so that you wear a singlet on scorching days or a regular polo shirt to create your own mixed doubles. The Italian sports house Ellesse has given its summer range a feminine touch with insets of pleats in tennis skirts and soft pastel colours mixed with white.

Specialist sports stores are where you get the best advice on suiting yourself in active wear. Olympus has a wide range from tennis clothes to

running vests, shorts and the different weight track suits. Lillywhites is the best known of all sports stores and offers specialist golf shoes or a tennis pro to help you choose a racket. Harrods Olympic Way is another arena for both committed and fair weather sports enthusiasts.

The high street too has been quick to catch on to the sportswear potential. Marks and Spencer, which started tennis wear as an experiment six years ago, has seen it grow into an eighties success story. Its leading stores now have

sportswear areas which this season, for the first time, include squash and tennis rackets. Its tennis clothes and leisure track suits are in high fashion apricots and blues mixed with white, and in a choice of fabrics from the avant-garde Mitrelle to more familiar cotton T-shirting.

Nothing illustrates the triumphant success of fashion sportswear better than the running shoe.

Every child and half the adult pollution wear trainers. They come in mixes of leather, suede, canvas and man-

made. They have tractor tread soles or punched uppers. They are flashed with colour, tied with fancy laces, and the status name suppliers are as competitive as fitness freaks.

It is a short fashion step from running shoes to running up clothes. Adidas, Nike, Puma and Reebok are household names to a fashion-conscious generation.

No wonder, then, that the centrepiece of the fashion show at the Royal College of Art was the clothes — designed by Anne Tyrell — that go with the Nike Wimbledon shoes.

Above: Silky track pants in sky blue Mitrelle polyester piped with apricot. £19.99; cap-sleeve T-shirt £10.99 and apricot and blue stripe V-neck cotton cardigan £16.99; matching sports socks pack £3.99; shoes £12.99. Tennis racket £19.99. All from a range at selected Marks and Spencer branches

Centre: Heart-patterned apricot and white vest top with rib knit inserts, matching pleated skirt, by Silvy. £55 from Olympic Way, Harrods, Knightsbridge. Gingham check socks and shoes from Fenwick of Bond Street

Far left: Candy striped pink and white pleated skirt by Lacoste £31.95, stripe trim top £24.95 both from Lillywhites, Piccadilly. Spotty headband £2.95, socks and gym shoes all from Fenwick of Bond Street. Prince racket, Lillywhites

Photographs by Suresh Karadia

Sporting jewels

Our top jewellers are having a busy summer of racing and hosting polo

This is a high profile summer for London's jewellers, who are using their social clout to back the sports of princes and kings — as well as staging special exhibitions of gems.

First off 14 years ago were Diamonds International who have added sparkle to horse racing with Ascot's Diamond Day (July 28). They are neck and neck with Cartier, whose International Polo (July 27) is now an annual social and sporting fixture. This Saturday (June 28) Garrard, the Crown Jewellers, present the Birthright polo gala at Smith's Lawn in aid of the charity backed by the Princess of Wales. Van Cleef and Arpels are also backing polo with a trophy at the newly inaugurated Royal Berkshire Club (June 28).



Diamonds International ring set in black steel and gold

The jewellers set in a cluster at the lower end of Bond Street have been celebrating the street's three centuries of excellence, with gleaming gold windows from Greek designer Ilias Lalounis, sparkling displays at Boucheron and a

special collection (until tomorrow) of archive pieces at Van Cleef and Arpels.

Cartier, meanwhile, have played host to the Diamond International Awards — now on the move between Scotland and Israel on a 13-nation tour.

A diamond can never be too big or too bold — that is the message from the award winners, who have used large stones flamboyantly and made lavish settings for the (relatively) smaller diamonds.

Pavé-set diamonds, the stones intricately butted to form a crazy paving of glitter, is an incoming style that was last in fashion in the 1930s. From that era too comes a revival of the square emerald-cut diamond, dramatically set in a circle of black onyx for a brooch by Diana Vincent of the USA.

The choice of materials for the settings is thoroughly modern: diamonds strutting a black leather wrist band from Japan, or a stunning six-carat stone in a black carbon and white agate ring from Italy. The diamonds are set in rock crystal, black lacquer, lapis lazuli and even the space age rainbow-coloured titanium.

Ginnie de Vroomen, one of the two British winners, sums up the trend in her ridged ebony bracelet set with diamonds in platinum and yellow gold.

Fashion trends in jewellery shown in this influential design contest are bold earrings (which have already reached the high street) and the revival of the brooch or pin.

Exciting high fashion pieces include a pavé-set diamond brooch shaped like a folded pocket handkerchief from the U.S., a pierrot ruff of yellow gold edged in diamonds from Italy, and the ultimate fashion accessory from France: a Chanel-style head bow made out of gold filigree and studded with diamonds.

On Thursday the newly-inaugurated Garrard award will be made to a student at the Metalwork and Jewellery Department of the Royal College of Art. Garrard have also announced expansion plans for their Regent Street store, and the appointment of a new director, Mr David Thomas, formerly at Collingwood.

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Printed Silk Squares (90cm)	£12.50	£6.25
Liberty Print Silk Squares (58cm)	£16.50	£8.25
Liberty Print Varuna Wool Shawls (140x140cm)	£28.50	£14.25
Angora Silk Scarves (90cm)	£59.50	£29.75
MENSWEAR		
Liberty Print Silk Tie	£1.50	£0.75
Cotton T-shirts	£52.00	£26.00
Printed Jacket	£195.00	£97.50
Drummen Wool Suit	£199.00	£99.50
DRESS FABRICS		
Swiss Flat Cotton Crepe (140cm)	£6.50	£2.95
Liberty Plain Varuna Wool (137cm)	£11.00	£5.50
Liberty Print Silk Crepe de Chine (90cm)	£20.00	£10.00
Liberty Print Ready-to-sew Tana Lawn Skirts	£21.50	£10.75
LINENS		
Liberty Plain Cotton Bedlinen		
Double Power Cover (200x200cm)	£59.95	£29.95
Pillow Case (50x75cm)	£12.00	£6.00
Cotton Jacquard Bedspread (270x270cm)	£125.00	£62.50
FURNITURE		
Old Pine Kitchen Table	£285	£142.50
Canterbury Three seat Sofa	£685	£342.50
Robbie Sofa Bed (imp)	£275	£137.50
De Sede Three seat Leather Sofa	£2,175	£1,087.50
Ellen Grey Transit Chair		£1,495
CARPETS		
Archon Kellim Carpet (7'x10')	£495	£247.50
De Sede Wool Carpet (12'x16')	£1,300	£650
De Sede Wool Carpet (13'x19')	£4,500	£2,250
De Sede Carpet (13'x19')	£2,500	£1,250

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THE TIMES
DIARY

Golden
silence

Some British companies are less willing than others to reveal that they are supporting the new anti-sanctions lobby group, Bicsa (British Industry Committee for South Africa). A statement by the group, setting out its objections to sanctions, carries the names of only 34 of the 50 companies with interests in South Africa who have paid to join. Among the absentees is Barclays, whose spokesman tells me to "draw your own conclusions" as to why the company does not want publicity for its anti-sanctions stand. "There's a lot of hypocrisy on all sides in this situation," says Bicsa chairman Sir Leslie Smith, while refusing to name the other 15 absentees.

Slipped discs

The rise of the home computer is putting an end to all those familiar conventional "reasons" for failing to hand in school homework. Teacher Pat Parnell, writing in the current *Readers' Digest*, records the new wave of excuses. "My little brother scribbled all over it with his crayons" becomes "My little brother played Pac-Man on it and erased it." "I left it on my desk at home" has apparently turned into "I left it on my disc at home," while that favourite corporate disclaimer, "The computer was down" has devolved to the classroom. Finally, the perennial standby of the sluggard, "The dog chewed it up," has acquired a high-tech counterpart: "My computer ate it."

Social realism

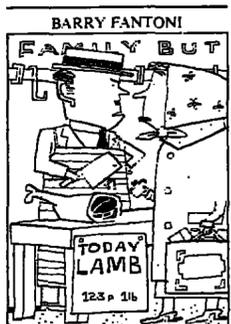
Three sisters playing *The Three Sisters*? Possibly. The enticing prospect is held out by a Dublin impresario, Noel Pearson, who wants Sinead, Sorcha and Niamh Cusack to play the title roles of Chekhov's classic in London in the autumn. Cyril Cusack, the proud father, tells me there is "enormous interest" in the project and it is now "largely a matter of organization." It could mean a tight schedule for Niamh and Sinead. One is playing Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet* for the RSC; the other is soon to appear as Lady Macbeth.

Some son

Ronald Reagan Junior is set to cause more paternal embarrassment. Recently he appeared in an American television comedy show prancing around the White House in his underpants. Soon he will be seen in an advertisement, with the following line: "Every time I pull out the American Express card people treat me like father." I wonder what would happen if he tried to use it in Russia.

Close-run

An informant tells me he overheard Jeffrey Archer proclaim in Hatches of Piccadilly the other day that more people watched the television serialisation of his novel *Cain and Abel* than voted Tory in the last election. This would of course be a heresy no less scarlet than John Lennon's claim that the Beatles were more popular than Jesus Christ. Archer was less than amused when I telephoned him. "Haven't you got anything better to write about?" he snapped. "Anyways, didn't I say it. Actually, it was Michael Grade who said it to me. You certainly can't use it." Over the weekend, however, Archer's natural love of press freedom got the better of him, and he phoned me with the official figures: Tory voters, 13,061,632; *Cain and Abel* 13,700,000. Very marginal.



There's the radioactive, or the hormone-treated, artificially-coloured, factory-farmed

Eightsome reels

Peter Coni QC, chairman of the Henley Royal Regatta management committee, is less than happy about plans by an unassociated group to hold a July 5 bingle which has been dubbed "The Henley Royal Regatta Ball". It is due to take place at Fawley Court Mansions in Henley, a large building with extensive grounds, run by nuns. Proceeds (tickets are £25 each) will go to the Divine Mercy College and to Windsor Sea Cadet Society. The upshot is that Ian Halifax, the organizer, has been threatened with legal action. Halifax himself was not available for comment when I rang him, but his father, Frederick Halifax, head of the family business, explained: "We did not realize this needed their permission. We used the name because it coincided in time and place with the regatta. It was done in all innocence." It is now not certain whether the ball will take place.

Baldwin lessons for Thatcher

by Timothy Yeo

"The present rates of benefit are too high... they reduce the incentive to seek work..." This sentiment, characteristic of many of the present government's supporters, might have been voiced at any time during the past three years.

Similarly, when the Chancellor asserts that "in the view of the Treasury, unemployment is more effectively arrested by national economy than national expenditure", he shows himself well within the mainstream of Thatcherite thinking.

Of course the achievement of economies is easier said than done. As the Minister of Health points out, "any attack on the health service would produce an uproar out of all proportion to the money saved."

Despite their contemporary ring these three quotations are from 1925, when unemployment benefit rates were substantially lower than today, public spending was a fraction of its present level and the health service existed in only the most rudimentary form.

They come from a Ministry of Labour spokesman, from Winston Churchill and from Neville Chamberlain, respectively Chancellor and Minister of Health. Parallels between the Baldwin and Thatcher administrations, despite the personality and philosophical chasms between their two heads, extend far beyond these quotations. Both enjoyed huge parliamentary majorities, yet their massive election victories of 1924

and 1983 were won with only a minority of the popular vote, each the consequence of opposition votes being split between Labour and Liberals.

Then, as now, the government survived a protracted miners' strike which damaged the economy and weakened the miners' union. Then, as now, Parliament passed legislation curbing trade union power and attacking the political levy.

And the Baldwin government, like Mrs Thatcher's, had to grapple with persistently high unemployment after a sharp fall in the rate of inflation; there was concern then, as there is today, about the decline in manufacturing industry and Britain's falling share of world trade.

While major reforms in the field of pensions and local government finance were devised and introduced, the Chancellor maintained a running battle with the spending departments, constantly urging cuts in expenditure. Even civil service manpower came under attack.

Today's party managers must hope that the analogy does not go too far. In the General Election of 1929 the Conservative Party suffered a defeat, being reduced to 260 seats in a hung parliament in which the Liberals put Labour into power.

The swing to the Liberals was greater than that to Labour, with

the result that no party secured an overall majority. The Liberals were left holding the balance of power and used their position to instal a Labour government.

Some historians have suggested that one of Baldwin's achievements was to give Labour time to mature into a party sufficiently responsible for the burden of office. A similar verdict would hardly be welcome to Mrs Thatcher, yet the danger, though only slight, exists.

The success of the present government in winning the intellectual and political arguments over trade union reform, wider home and share ownership, and privatization may reduce the risk of these measures being reversed by a subsequent administration. But, paradoxically, the more these reforms are perceived as permanent and immutable, the less the electorate will be afraid of a non-Tory majority in Parliament. Neil Kinnock could thus be one improbable beneficiary of the Thatcher era.

To make this possibility less likely three lessons should be learnt from the dying years of the Baldwin government:

At a time of high and rising unemployment, the Chancellor must be careful not to sound complacent or unsympathetic when making cheerful reports about the state of the economy. Churchill's consistently optimistic

tone in 1924-29 did not help Tory electoral prospects and Nigel Lawson, who has the chance to become only the fourth Tory ever to present five consecutive budgets (Peel being the first), runs a similar risk.

The political naivete of business tycoons should not be underestimated. A significant factor in 1929 was the well publicized endorsement by top industrialists in an eve of poll "businessmen's manifesto" of Lloyd George's proposals for increased infrastructure investment as a cure for unemployment. However well intentioned, the consequence was to help the Liberals to instal a Labour government.

Timing and preparation are critical. New rating assessments came in just before the 1929 election, annoying many domestic ratepayers. The election manifesto itself was hastily produced and insubstantial. Such mistakes, in theory easily avoidable, are often made by governments long in office. Some battle-weary Tory backbenchers believe the present one is heading that way.

Historical comparisons can always be faulted by those who wish to stress the differences rather than the similarities between two eras. Nevertheless the situation facing the Baldwin government before 1929 is close enough in some respects to today to justify more than a passing glance.

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Digby Anderson
Making health
a living death

Sobering thoughts as you contemplate the approaching summer holidays: we have been told that exposure to the sun carries the risk of skin cancer, so no more lounging on beaches. Fizzy drinks can make children ill; no Coke, no fizzy lemonade. Eating most things except bran and nuts is risky, so no restaurants. Alcohol, even in minute quantities (a couple of decent drinks a day, says the British Medical Association), can damage your liver and lead to marital friction and child abuse — so no drinks. I should cancel my holiday.

On no account continue working; stress is the biggest killer of all and, according to a BMA conference earlier this year, will make you have a motor car accident, drive you to drink or both. Who knows, it may induce "comfort-eating" and chronic dependence on that dangerous fizzy lemonade.

Whatever the scientific consensus behind such warnings, certainly less than often claimed, one aspect is unclear. Each interdiction is pronounced individually and thus appears to affect only a small part of life. But place them together, as for the typical sunning, eating and drinking holiday, and they amount to a substantial denunciation of normal life. The more extreme Jeremiahs — let us call them Healthists — are not content with a minor change to a diet of moderation. They want a revolution in western eating, working and leisure to ensure the production and consumption of "healthy" goods in "healthy" factories and homes within a "healthy" environment. Health is the supreme good.

But they are silent on one point: what sort of life would they have us lead? What is the good life according to Healthist opinion? Despite their efforts to smile through mouthfuls of unsalted lentils, their food is patently dull and it's dull to be with people who are eating it. Nellie Wallace immortalized the absurdities of trying to make non-alcoholic drinks play the same cultural role as proper drink in pubs in her song "Let's have a tiddley at the milk bar — let's make a night of it tonight, let's have a tiddley at the milk bar, we'll paint the town a lovely white. You buy half a pint, I'll buy half a pint, we'll try to drink a pint somehow, so let's have a tiddley at the milk bar, and drink to the dear old cow."

Drink, smoking, good food and sunbathing are enjoyments and offer socially respectable activities. What would the Healthists have us do instead? What would we spend our money on? Indeed, what money or jobs would we have if entrepreneurs did not run the risk of stress or industries were even more hamstrung by restrictions in the name of health?

It may be that Healthists don't value hedonism, the social aspects of drinking and eating, and possibly they would have stopped the wealth-creating Industrial Revolution in the name of health. But what do they value? There is nothing in their propaganda about life as service to others or life as search for truth and justice. There is no religious dimension. Their concern is overwhelmingly to hang on to this life, to extend it as many days and hours as possible. But what for?

Their's is a vision of incredible aridity: a life obsessed with avoiding risk, conceived of quantitatively in terms of extent. Enjoyment, appreciation of fine cuisine and wine, the excitement and productive tension of what they call stress, the danger of innovation... all must yield to extending the number of safe, jogging, tensionless, sterilized, pet-free years.

And that may be illusory. When they encourage us not to die of lung cancer or heart disease, we should surely ask what they would have us die of. Not only is there doubt about whether many health campaigns reduce disease, there is evidence that when, as with heart disease in the United States, they marginally do so, life expectancy is not increased. We die of something else. Replacement causes of death may be worse than those current in that they may be more painful, humiliating or costly to others.

Research published in *Social Science in Medicine* suggests that, contrary to the Healthists' propaganda, many smokers die relatively quickly and impose a relatively low cost on others via the NHS. Were they to survive comparatively healthy in nursing homes, subsidised by the state at £170 a week, the costs would be much higher.

What is crucial is that health worship discourages its followers from confronting the eternal and inevitable questions. Mature philosophies, religions and individuals try, with very different results, to ask what life is for, what the good life is and to confront the inevitability of death and its implications for life. Healthists not only evade such issues, they replace them with narrowly medical obsessions about avoiding certain diseases. They talk as if death were not inevitable, as if life can be rendered safe and riskless, as if health were an end, not a means.

A concern for health is right, proper and makes sense within a culture and a moral understanding of life. Elevated to a supreme principle, it is idolatrous and grotesque. "Have you still got those two seats of the flight to Naples?"
The author is Director of the Social Affairs Unit.

Robert Fisk on the efforts to bring Syria back in the fold

Oiling a new Arab line-up

Riyadh As they have looked northward from this royal capital these past six years, a bleak perspective has greeted the princes of the House of Saud. Israel occupies the land which the Saudis, like most other Arabs, still call Palestine. Iraq is fighting for its life against the Iranians, traditional enemy of the Arabs. Jordan cannot even persuade the Palestinians to co-ordinate demands for the return of the West Bank and Gaza Strip from Israeli occupation. Syria, allied to Iran, has perpetually called for the overthrow of the Iraqi regime. Lebanon, so traumatic a catastrophe that the Saudis prefer not to discuss it, scarcely meets the definition of a nation-state any longer.

For Arabs who still believe in *ittihad* — in unity, and in the political and military strength that unity is supposed to give them — it is difficult to imagine a more dismal spectacle. The only real unity they ever had was under the Ottoman Empire, whose defeat in the First World War effectively broke up the structure of the "Arab nation" to which the dictators of the region now nominally aspire.

In the brief period before the British and French broke their promises of Arab independence and carved up the Middle East into their own spheres of influence, the Hashemites did create a semblance of ghostly Arab nationalism when Feisal ibn Husain, grand-uncle of the present King Husain of Jordan, was elected king of Syria at a noisy *majlis* in Damascus. He was to become King of Iraq. Feisal's brother Abdullah — King Husain's grandfather — was to become Emir of Transjordan. His brother Ali ruled the Hejaz until Abdul Aziz drove him out. Yet today, the Hashemites control only a tiny kingdom east of the Jordan river, having lost the West Bank to Israel in 1967; Amman is a mere village amid the cities of the Middle East, and Jordan a post-Habsburg Austria in which more than half the population can be classified as refugees.

Thus a special historical burden — some might say guilt — hangs upon the shoulders of King Husain. It is this burden which drove him into the frustrating negotiations with Yassir Arafat for a mandate to seek the return of the West Bank. And it is this same legacy which has given the Hashemite monarchy a pivotal role in Arab affairs once more, by bringing together those same nations once claimed or ruled by King



Husain's own grandfather and grand-uncles. It is not just a family affair, of course, and the machinery of re-establishing relations between Syria and Iraq is well oiled with Saudi dollars. But the king is now trying to create an arc of security for the Saudis, Iraq and Jordan by turning Syria away from its military and political alliance with Iran. As the news comes in from the front lines of the Gulf War, and the news is all bad for the Arabs, whatever the Iraqis may claim — the Hashemites, the House of Saud and the regimes of Saddam Hussein and Hafez el-Assad may soon be able to take comfort in a new sense of unity, albeit brought about by their mutual fear of Iran and their growing economic problems.

It is not difficult to see the pressures that have been brought to bear upon Syria. Owing millions of dollars in oil payments to Iran, compromised by Iran's incursions into Iraqi territory, desperate for foreign currency and unable to obtain it from the Saudis without substantial political concessions, unable to establish the credibility of its own anti-Arafat Palestinian guerrilla organization and isolated in its self-declared role as vanguard of the Arab cause, Syria needs friends. The Egyptians, who realize

there can be no Middle East settlement without Syria, are already privately urging Saddam Hussein to prepare himself for a summit with Assad. All the states in that "arc of security" realize that if the Iraqi dam bursts, it will be Egyptian manpower which will have to be thrown into the breach to prevent the Arabs' greatest disaster since 1948.

In theory, then, a profoundly important realignment is taking shape in the Middle East, a renewal of alliances that King Husain may like to present to the US as a viable negotiating team for the peace settlement for which he yearns. If the Arab states of the Levant and the Gulf can come together, then surely they will have the power to deliver on any commitments about the future security of Israel.

There are, however, two serious flaws in this argument. The first is that the Palestinians must be represented in a new Arab strategic alliance and are likely to insist that their leadership is controlled by Yassir Arafat — whom neither Assad nor Husain can now tolerate. The second is that neither Israel nor the US is likely to see any advantage in a powerful Arab front; why should Israel wish to return to the state of affairs that existed in 1967 when Syria, Jordan, Egypt and even Iraq were

sufficiently united to fight together to recover occupied Arab land? And why should the US want to encourage such a powerful Arab coalition when the Arabs would then insist — as they already do, that Moscow should be a co-signatory of any future Middle East peace agreement?

Arafat has said several times that he suspects another Yalta is in the making, a conclave of super-powers and Arab states which would abandon the Palestinians to their fate as surely as the US and Britain abandoned Eastern Europe to the Russians. If his fears prove well-founded, the results will be partly of his own making. The PLO's prestige and morale have never been so low, its fragmentation a symbol not just of Arab betrayal but of its own inability to grasp the opportunity which King Husain has provided for realistic negotiations.

Husain would like to regain his lost territory west of the Jordan river before granting Palestinians the autonomy which they have demanded. He is vigorously publicizing this ambition among European and American leaders. As peacemakers within the Arab camp as well as within the Middle East as a whole, the Hashemites could achieve a new stature. But even now, the mutual suspicion of Iraqi and Syrian dictatorships is preventing any serious dialogue. A planned meeting between their foreign ministers recently failed to materialize; one Gulf newspaper claimed that the talks had indeed taken place but had gone so badly that both sides agreed to deny their existence.

Israel has nothing to gain from an Iranian victory in the Gulf War but equally nothing to gain from an Arab victory. Israeli arms supplies to Iran, however covert their method of delivery, are likely to continue, just as American and French supplies do to Iraq. The Americans are hostile enough towards the Iranians to support the Arabs; but why give the Arabs a new military strength at the very moment when their oil weapon has become redundant?

Meanwhile, the Saudis will go on looking apprehensively to their northern horizon, relying, as always, on the Americans for ultimate protection — just as the Israelis do. Indeed, that is just what the Jordanians, the Iraqis and even the Syrians will be doing if the Iranians take more ground in the Gulf War. As always, any new Arab alignment is going to need the approval of Washington — which probably means the approval of Israel as well.

Capitalism gorging itself on Liberty

New York On July 4 — America's birthday, and the Statue of Liberty's centennial — New York will be engulfed in a swamp of schmaltz, the like of which has not been seen in the history of unctuousness.

The intention is to whip up such patriotic fervour, and draw so deeply on the well of sentiment, that for days America will be half choked by the lump in the national throat. The saluting of the statue will demonstrate the potency of national myths and symbols, and as a mega marketing and made-for-television event, it will simultaneously hail and multiply the dollar.

"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses", goes the poem by Emma Lazarus at the base of the statue. Certainly the masses will be huddled in their millions when President Reagan illuminates the statue on the evening of July 3, inaugurating four days of celebrations.

But thousands of them will have to be very rich indeed to afford the best seats on land and sea. One harbour-side restaurant is charging £660 a head for dinner that night. Many people are paying similar prices for places on the tens of thousands of boats that will shoal around Liberty island in New York harbour. A man with a harbour view is renting out his flat on July 4 for £16,000. Chrysler is hiring the QE II to provide a viewing platform for 800 car salesmen. Coca-Cola is renting one of the Staten Island ferries. President Reagan will watch from an aircraft-carrier.

Indeed, Liberty weekend will be as great a naval occasion as was Victoria's Spithead review, with warships from 30 countries, 20 tall ships and more than 200 other smaller sailing vessels in attendance. Massed choirs will sing *America the Beautiful*. The Chief Justice will swear in 2,000 new American citizens on Ellis Island, the former gateway to America, and 40,000 others will join the ceremony by satellite. The biggest flag will be flown, the biggest band will blare and the July 4 fireworks display will be 10 times more dazzling than usual.

Liberty's face and form are everywhere. There are metal, wood and plastic Liberties by the million, and you can buy a 9ft plaster replica for \$50. You can eat chocolate Liberties, and a New York delicatessen owner is building a three-and-a-half foot Liberty in chopped liver.

As part of the fund-raising drive, 30 companies have been licensed by the money-raising foundation to use the "official" Statue of Liberty logo. It appears on air fresheners, rubbish bags and beer mugs. But it has been refused to manufacturers who wanted to stick it on coffins, lavatory seats, dog collars and guns.

Although some find it offensive, commercialization of the statue has gone on ever since France gave the 151ft colossus to the United States as a symbol of democracy. Her image has been used to sell a huge variety of things, from corned beef to knickers; and deodorant makers have cunningly exploited the upraised right arm.

moreover... Miles Kingston
A postbag of magpies

To judge from recent correspondence about the increasing predatory behaviour of magpies, you would think they were the Colonel Gadaffis of the bird world, terrorizing every other bird within miles and killing quite a few. Some of the letters we've received put a different side of the picture...

From Mrs Valery Macassar Sir, it may come as a surprise to you to know that magpies can be very useful in the antiques trade. In my antique shop we had a tame magpie. As you know, they are great little collectors of worthless trifles. Whenever a customer came to the shop wishing to sell objects, we would always show them the Oscar (the magpie). Whatever Oscar selected, we rejected, as we knew he only went for the rubbish. Unfortunately he started stealing from the till. He had to go. I believe he is now canvassing for the SDP.

From Mrs Lana Lerner Sir, I had a shock the other day when, in answer to a loud knock at the door, I opened it and found a large magpie sitting there. He croaked at me: "Vote for David!" and when I regretfully declined, saying that my vote was already promised for Neil, he flew at me in a tremendous rage and started pecking me. He would only desist when I promised to purchase an SDP badge from a large box of worthless trivia he had with him. I never knew magpies could attack people.

From Major-General Nigel Prithee Sir, Oh yes, they jolly well can. He's a fine little fighting bird, is your Johnny Magpie, as we found out to our advantage in the war. When we were in Italy we found that some of the German companies were communicating with each other via pigeons, which were trained to fly from one position to another. No way of getting at them, of course, until someone had the bright idea of training magpies to go for 'em. Worked like a dream: when we saw the pigeons, off would go the 31st Squadron, the Maggies, and those black and white shapes would cause absolute havoc to your Hans Pigeon.

regimental dinner, when I'm afraid they all used to get absolutely pie-eyed. They were disbanded in 1945, but in 1948 I remember seeing a magpie in Kent which distinctly saluted as I passed.

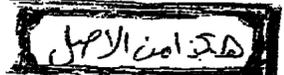
From Roger Thesaurus Sir, I wonder how many of your readers are aware that a magpie called Otto was a Hollywood film star for a while. He played the Jackdaw of Rheims, Seagulls over Sorrento, The Thief of Baghdad, etc, but his chief claim to fame was as a stunt bird — if you look at any early diving eagle or lurking vulture, you'll find that all the long shots of spectacular stunts are done by a magpie.

Unfortunately, he was ruined by the advent of coloured films; being black and white, he could no longer stand in for coloured birds.

From Mr Richard Fustian Sir, My hobby is starting extremely long and useless correspondences in newspapers, and I wondered if there was any chance of getting one started here by asking: Does anyone know why the next to outer ring of a target is called a magpie? Yours etc.

From Henry the Talking Avocet Sir, Hello! Thought you'd like to hear from a real bird. Incidentally, I'm in a summer spectacular show at Ross-on-Wye (the place that changed its name from T.E. Lawrence-on-Wye to avoid publicity) and hope as many of you as possible come along, it's a great show.

Just wanted to reminisce for a moment about a passionate affair I had one summer with a magpie called Pandora. What a cracker she was. She used to live in a huge penthouse nest at the top of an elm tree, and croak "Come up to my place some time," to all and sundry. She was quite mortified to find that Mae West had said it first, but of course she didn't have the showbiz background that I did. We had ideas about marriage once, but her parents didn't like me and my parents didn't like her either, so that was that. She later went off with a guillemot and moved to the Welsh seaside, where she started drinking heavily. Not surprised, either, have you seen the Welsh seaside? (This correspondence is closed for major alterations.)



by Anderson
ing health
ing death



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INTO AFRICA

The Government will decide this week whether to dispatch Sir Geoffrey Howe to South Africa. If he goes, he will be embarking on a peacemaking mission to a country whose people now seem to be bent upon war. It is important that Ministers should decide in the affirmative.

It is equally important that he should go for the right reasons. It would be regrettable if his intervention were seen as no more than a delaying tactic to ease the Government past the next European/Commonwealth pressure point on sanctions. This newspaper has clarified its own opposition to sanctions — and to most other so-called "measures", including the severance of air links, which are sometimes preferred as a soft option. It is that sanctions will probably prove to be ineffective but, if they should curb trade and investment, that would paradoxically help to establish the political and economic conditions for a policy of blunt resistance to world opinion.

But there has long been an argument that Britain should play a more positive diplomatic role than that which it has so far sought. And sanctions are not the only form that intervention in South African affairs can take, merely the worst.

As the old imperial overlord, as one of its biggest trading partners, as the leader of the Commonwealth with strong African connections, and as Washington's closest ally, there are historic, commercial and political reasons why this country is best placed to talk to South Africa. To these, Britain's forthcoming presidency of the European Council adds a subtle combination of lustre and clout.

Until now the

Government's power to play a constructive part in the South African story has been curtailed by its refusal to talk to the African National Congress (ANC). As the value of any intermediary must depend upon its ability to talk to both sides — especially when, as in this case, the two sides do not talk to each other — Whitehall's non-approach has always been a fundamental drawback.

In theory (and in most circumstances) the Government's demand that the ANC should renounce violence has been unimpeachable. But the situation in South Africa is rapidly passing beyond the point at which such considerations seem relevant.

The first recognition of this came last February when a senior Foreign Office diplomat met ANC officials at Lusaka during the conference of front-line states. Now Whitehall has gone one step further by issuing the invitation for Mr Oliver Tambo, the ANC leader, to meet Mrs. Lynda Chalker, Minister of State at the FCO, during his visit to London.

This decision deserves a cautious welcome — as does the decision by a number of Conservative MPs that he should meet them too. To talk to Mr Tambo does not imply approval of all that he stands for. It does admittedly accord to him a degree of respectability that he might otherwise lack and which, in other circumstances, might be traded for his renunciation of violence. But the degree of conflict in South Africa makes such considerations secondary.

The message which the Government wants to convey to Mr Tambo will include an appeal for South Africa's black majority to turn their backs on violence. Some observers now

question whether the ANC can any more control the situation in the Cape's black townships and would argue, therefore, that Britain is already talking to yesterday's man? But in the absence of anyone else, it is the ANC whom the British government must turn to.

At the very least, a meeting of this kind would be an important symbolic act as Britain seeks Commonwealth approval for its mission. How far Sir Geoffrey would gain by being plugged in to all the conflicting voices in the Commonwealth and on the continent is a matter for considerable argument. There is at least something to be said for letting him get on with it in his own quiet, understated way.

Meanwhile his "Shadow", in the all-too-solid shape of Mr Denis Healey, left for Pretoria last night. It is understandable that the Shadow Foreign Secretary and his deputy should want to conduct a fact-finding exercise of this kind, especially when the facts are so elusive. Mr Healey is a skilled and experienced politician of stature and he could have something valuable to contribute.

On the other hand, he may not. He and Mr Neil Kinnock have shown themselves all too willing to export party politics abroad on recent missions to Moscow and (in Mr Kinnock's case) to India. And Mr Healey's speech in last week's debate subordinated any serious analysis of the problems of Southern Africa and their possible solution to mounting a partisan attack on the Prime Minister. This time he can hardly afford to indulge in that kind of political exploitation without queering the pitch for everyone and, ultimately, damaging the interests of black South Africans whose welfare he professedly seeks to advance.

THE LAW REFORMS A LITTLE

For a profession which used to measure change in decades and regarded dawdling as the ultimate expression of high speed, lawyers are frenetically trying to make up for years of complacent apathy. Scarcely a week passes without a new report or proposal emanating from, or aimed at, the Law Society or the Bar. Discussion about the future of the legal profession is constant; litigation is undertaken for higher legal aid fees or more rights of audience in the courts; management consultants cannot believe their good fortune at being consulted, virtually in perpetuity, about the efficiency of this or that procedure or structure within the profession; and barristers forego weekends in the country to attend special meetings to discuss latest developments.

Of the two branches, the Bar is the more vulnerable. Its costs, curious traditions, and working practices are coming under increasingly critical scrutiny. At the same time a significant proportion of its members, those who are dependent mainly on legal aid

work, are finding it difficult to earn a modest living, let alone attract the kind of fat incomes that the public traditionally attributes to barristers. The Bar is under siege, too, from within the profession. Solicitors, anxious to compensate for the loss of their conveyancing monopoly, are looking to grab some of the Bar's traditional work, not least its near-monopoly of the right to plead in the higher courts.

The changes to the constitution of the barristers' governing institutions, adopted over the weekend, are part of the Bar's plans to reform its own structures the better to be able to repulse outside attacks and effectively to promote the interests of its own members. One governing body would be substituted for the uneasy power-sharing duality that now exists. Senior judges and the Inns of Court would lose their anomalous influence over the running of the Bar. The newly-elected Bar Council would unashamedly take on a trade union role, negotiating fees that come from public funds on behalf of its members

and if necessary entering the political arena to lobby on behalf of barristers' interests.

There is no doubt that the new arrangements, which would come into force next year, would greatly facilitate the efficient administration of the profession. They will certainly be in the interests of its members who have suffered for too long from having a governing body that was both cumbersome in taking and implementing decisions and ineffectual at presenting the Bar's case to the outside world.

But will they also be in the public interest? The new structure is partly intended to ensure that the Bar should be more able to fight its corner against those who might wish to tamper with the existing division between barristers and solicitors. It is a fight the Bar ought not to win completely. Some re-drawing of the dividing line is needed to remove unnecessary duplication and to ensure that the specialist branch of a two-tier profession is genuinely expert at its professed speciality.

THE ICE CREAKS

The elevation of the Soviet Union's lamentably misqualified culture minister to the ceremonial post of USSR Vice-President last week is of significance only in that it opens the way for a more enlightened administrator of the arts in the Soviet Union. That at least is the hope. Whether it is anything more than wishful thinking may emerge from the congress of the Soviet Writers' Union which begins today.

The hope was given some substance at the weekend when the Soviet leader took the unusual step of addressing leading writers in advance of the congress. Calling for more innovative thinking, he acknowledged an implicit break with the past, noting the new role writers had to play in the "moral restructuring" of the country.

Unfortunately, any optimism such words might have inspired was simultaneously tempered by the actions of the Soviet courts. In Leningrad a collector of modern art was sent to a labour camp for selling paintings illegally — a crime which reflects the continued scarcity value and political sensitivity of abstract art. And in the southern republic of Georgia, two members of a pop group were given long prison sentences for human rights activities.

There have, nonetheless, been signs of ferment in the

Soviet arts recently. A commission has just been set up to re-examine all the films rejected by the censor over the past 20 years. The plays on offer in Moscow's theatres have become a little more adventurous, and members of the Politburo have made a habit of going to see them.

Yevgeni Yevtushenko, the country's part-timed, part-rebel poet, has made — and been officially reported as making — outspoken remarks about artistic distortions of the Soviet past. Respected, but latterly silent members of the Soviet intelligentsia have started to lend their signatures to official cultural campaigns again. A new pride is being encouraged in the Russian past; and the Soviet press has begun, tentatively, to mention the unmentionable: the damage done to the Russian cultural heritage in the early and not so early years of Soviet power.

As yet it is unclear whether these developments are really indicative of a new latitude on the part of the authorities or whether they merely reflect hopeful lobbying on the part of different artistic groups at a time of official indecision. The removal of the culture minister — whose sole qualifications for guiding artists along the byways of the ideologically permissible was a degree in chemical engineering and an (almost) impeccable Com-

munist Party record — suggests some involvement from the top.

More than anything, however, it suggests a measure of despair. The combined effect of Messrs Demichev, Brezhnev and Chernenko at the cultural helm for so many years has had a stultifying effect on Soviet artists in every field. Many of the most talented and innovative (the film director Tarkovsky, the theatre director Lyubimov, the writer Voinovich, to name but a few) have been driven to seek artistic stimulus in emigration, often at great personal cost.

Recently, the treatment of Andrei Gavrilov, a young and gifted pianist who has been permitted to spend long periods abroad without being deprived of his citizenship (itself a departure), suggests both the level of official concern about the drain of young talent and the seeds of a compromise.

For musicians and dancers, even for some film and theatre producers, such a compromise might work. But for writers and painters whose work is — by virtue of Soviet censorship — intrinsically political, such a compromise brings scant benefit. If they are to flourish, a change of official attitudes is required — and one more radical than anything likely to be countenanced at this week's congress of writers.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

One point unresolved on Polaris

From the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Social Democrats for Defence and Disarmament

Sir, We write as members of the committee which drafted the SDP's defence and disarmament policy. In view of recent conflicting reports, we would like to state categorically that Dr David Owen has precisely and correctly represented SDP policy on Polaris and the need to replace it.

There should be no doubt of the intentions of the drafting committee and of the Council for Social Democracy, which firmly adopted our report at Torquay last year. We are committed to retaining Britain's nuclear deterrent, and that requires us to prepare now for the ultimate replacement of our obsolescent Polaris force. We could only halt such preparations, as we said in our report, if disarmament negotiations progress dramatically to a successful conclusion before our preparations were completed. In the absence of such progress, we said, replacement of Polaris would of necessity proceed.

The only question we left unresolved was the details of the system which should replace Polaris. Our discussions continue on this point. We are opposed to Trident, as are our Liberal allies, but we recognise that the Government may have acquired a significant amount of expensive Trident hardware by the time of the general election.

Committed as we are to retaining a minimum nuclear deterrent, it would be irresponsible of us to settle inflexibly on one replacement system until we can see

Decline of state school cricket

From Mr David Green

Sir, While our television screens present us with a surfeit of international sport, perhaps it is appropriate to consider the state of some of our traditional sports at school level.

I recently helped to prepare a report on the state of school cricket in Middlesex which, I feel, has implications for this game at all levels.

Only eight secondary schools affiliated to our schools association play regular inter-school cricket and at primary school level only two boroughs have entered our inter-borough competition. Many of our excellent club colts sections are struggling to cope with the numbers of boys wishing to play and desperately need more coaches and helpers.

However, in the inner-London boroughs there are so few colts sections that many boys have no opportunity to play at all. Representative sides are now selected from fewer and fewer schools, usually in the private sector, and gifted players in state schools cannot develop their potential.

Indeed, the current England captain's introduction to cricket was dependent upon a keen schoolmaster, who encouraged him until he joined the colts section at Brondesbury club.

This decline of state school cricket has several causes: cricket requires expensive equipment and expertly maintained facilities at a time of financial stringency in schools; fewer and fewer schools have the staff able to devote the time to run matches and recent industrial action has resulted in schoolmasters and their pupils finding other ways of spending their free time; and political pressure against sports that are competitive, only encourage boys and are elitist in forcing headmasters and physical education staff to abandon inter-school cricket.

Such a weakening of grassroots youth cricket — and the situation is no better for soccer or rugby football — must eventually have consequences for our senior club, county and even national sides. If we are to maintain interest and standards in traditional sports such as cricket, we must confront the alarming implications of the current situation.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GREEN (Chairman, Cricket Committee, Middlesex Colts Association),
17 Stanley Road,
Northwood, Middlesex.

Part-time education

From the Secretary of the National Advisory Body for Public Sector Higher Education

Sir, Dr Burlin (Rector of the Polytechnic of Central London) alleges (June 13) that despite our "rhetoric" (his word) about the importance of part-time higher education, we are failing properly to fund it; and he refers in particular to part-time evening degree courses. A detailed analysis of the problem would take too much of your space, so may I content myself with a few brief points in reply?

First, and this really is quite fundamental, we do not advise on the allocation of funds to courses, but on their allocation to institutions as a whole.

Second, in building up those allocations on the basis of a national model we do use the figure of 20 per cent which Dr Burlin criticises.

Third, despite his assertion, there is no reliable evidence on a national basis that an evening degree course student costs 60 per cent of a full-time.

Fourth, there is, however, reliable evidence that not all evening only courses of higher education cost even roughly the same.

Fifth, for this and other reasons we set up a sub-committee to look at the problem and to identify a solution; it was chaired by one of Dr Burlin's fellow polytechnic directors. That sub-committee recommended that — although the evidence for differing costs was clear — there was no readily identifiable overall national funding model that would solve the problem equitably without excessive and unjustified complexity.

Sixth, we have continued to remind institutions that their financial allocations are to be seen as a whole ("block grant"); no national funding model, even if it were to deal differently with part-time work, could possibly replicate the circumstances of, or be

appropriate for resource distribution within a single college.

And finally, seventh, we are satisfied that we are undervaluing part-time work generally in our allocation methodology. To revalue it within the present resource constraints would necessitate "under-funding" full-time work — and our current proposals envisage a cut in full-time places nearly twice that identified in part-time work.

We need more money for public sector higher education, both generally and to revalue part-time work. This is not the first year in which we have asked the Secretary of State for more resources for the latter purpose; he is not yet convinced that there is a need.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN S. BEVAN, Secretary,
National Advisory Body for Public Sector Higher Education,
Metropolis House,
22 Percy Street, W1,
June 17.

Student loans

From Mr H. G. Hamey

Sir, In 1934, having won a state scholarship, I approached Sheffield Education Committee, asking for a grant of the balance needed to study at Cambridge. My widowed mother declared her annual income at £169. We were declared too rich for a grant.

When I refused to make my mother destitute, the committee granted me half the sum and lent me the other half.

The loan was interest-free and repayable at not less than £2 per month, commencing six months after I secured permanent employment (if I did).

I thought it cheap at the price. I still do. It took almost six years to repay the loan. I would have paid £2 per month for the rest of my life for the privilege.

Yours sincerely,
H.G. HAMEY,
57 Grove Park,
Knaresborough, Cheshire.

A common lot

From the Reverend John Simpson

Sir, The parish of Curry Rivel has a name problem. The rector, curate, lay reader and both churchwardens are called John. It was suggested that they could be named John the Apostle, John the Elder, John the Presbyter, John the Evangelist and John the Divine. The advice of the retired priest was sought — another John.

It was thought that, on such a delicate theological point, an appeal might have to be made to higher authority. This could complicate the issue. The Bishop is also called John.

A thoroughly confused JOHN SIMPSON,
The Vicarage,
Curry Rivel,
Nr Langport, Somerset.

S Africa Press ban

From Sir Peter Vanneck, MEP for Cleveland and Yorkshire North (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, I know well the South African Government is to ban the journalists at a peak emotional moment — and just look at the emotional reactions. Regardless of the debate as to whether television portrayal of violence encourages it by imitation in the United Kingdom, I personally believe that, when known, television coverage of an

Threat to Lewes

From Mr Robert Davenport

Sir, Professor Bell's letter in today's Times (June 9) highlights the problems caused when the heavy hand of a county council fumbles with local issues. Passing below Lewes on the south side it is possible to appreciate the far-reaching spread of the South Downs and a fine view of this historic town.

The only flaw in the timeless profile of old houses clustered around the castle is the lurking concrete and glass bulk of the East Sussex County Council offices.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT DAVENPORT,
3 Church Lane Cottages,
Ripe, Lewes, East Sussex.

Falkland mines

From Dr A. W. Rudge

Sir, Following publication of your article, "Falkland minefield cleaned up abandoned", by Rodney Cowton, on June 12, I write to clarify a number of points.

Firstly, the technical performance of the pulsed or ground-probing radar has far exceeded the original technical goals. Reliable detection of all types of mines found in the Falkland Islands has been demonstrated in a wide variety of field conditions. The full design data required to build operational mine-detection systems has been generated, but no units built. The cost is significant because of the need for 100 per cent safety, but any Falkland

Not on all fours

From Mr P. J. Clark

Sir, The Government may like to heed its own advice regarding the paying of small companies promptly. I have, this morning, received the final payment for prescriptions which were dispensed during the month of March. Part of the payment for the cost of drugs was withheld because of discounts that I received from my wholesalers. I earned these discounts by setting my account within 30 days!

Yours faithfully,
PETER J. CLARK,
Managing Director,
G. F. Bevis & Co.,
The Eastgate Pharmacy,
15 Eastgate Square, West Sussex,
June 20.

Prison discipline

From Lord Donaldson of Kingsbridge

Sir, Your Home Affairs Correspondent suggests (June 10) that opposition from prison boards of visitors "is threatening to undermine plans... for a fundamental change in the way inmates are disciplined". I very much hope it is not allowed to do so.

Both the Jellicoe committee in the seventies and the Prior committee last year have come out unanimously in favour of removing the prison boards of visitors' powers of adjudication so that they can carry out most thoroughly their duties of protect-

ing the rights of prisoners under their care and their right of direct access to the Home Secretary if necessary.

Since the publication of the Prior report we have seen the emergence of a strong and growing consensus in favour of a new independent disciplinary tribunal to replace adjudications by boards of visitors. This consensus now includes the representative organisations of prison governors, prison officers and magistrates, as well as reform groups.

The Parliamentary All-Party Penal Affairs Group is fully persuaded of the case. We consider that boards of visitors' adjudicatory functions reduce prisoners' confidence in boards as a channel for their grievances and that only a conspicuously independent body of a judicial nature should be empowered to deprive prisoners of substantial amounts of remission.

People do not like their functions to be reduced, but in this case the boards will gain greater strength in carrying out their remaining, and, indeed, more important functions, through their clearly seen separation from the disciplinary duties of a tribunal.

Yours etc,
DONALDSON,
House of Lords,
June 13.

ON THIS DAY

JUNE 24 1807

The first theatrical notices to criticize productions in contrast to the practice of publishing "puffs" were in the News (1805) for which Leigh Hunt wrote candid reviews.

The Times soon followed suit engaging Byron Fields as dramatic critic. Among the recipients of the scathing comments below was Charles Lamb, whose devotees will remember that when Mr. H. was hissed, he was so afraid of being known as the author he joined the audience in its disapprobation.

THEATRES.

Review of the Past Season.

A retrospect of the drama of the Past Season is not attended with the greatest delight... Of new plays we have had enough, but of good ones very few. The time was when the dramatic muse held an even mirror up to nature; but now, if she holds up any mirror at all, it is composed of a concave lens, that presents us with either a heterogeneous blank, or a hideous distortion of feature. The consequence of this is, that the managers are obliged to have recourse to frequent revivals, and are content, when CHERRY or REYNOLDS fail, to see what SHAKESPEARE or MURPHY can do; not, however, that Mr. KEMBLE'S revivals of SHAKESPEARE are elegant and judicious, or that the Drury Lane performances of MURPHY'S comedies are unimpeachable, and undelightful; but that the town ought not to be compelled "to see what they have seen," and that an age, for whom so much has been done by its predecessors, ought to be compelled to do something for its successors.

The best production of the season is undoubtedly Mr. TOBIN'S drama, or rather poem (for it is in its descriptions, rather than its dialogue, that it is celebrated) of the Curfew. But the very excellencies which have increased the delights of a perusal of this play, have diminished those of its performance: we read good poetry at home; at the theatre we expect to see good characters...

The next Piece in the order of merit, is Mr. LEWIS'S *Adelphi*, a tragedy which we regret was not brought forward earlier in the season, and under other circumstances, than for the benefit of a performer. It is no great compliment to the taste of a Manager, to say that Mr. LEWIS'S melodrama was accepted by the theatre, and his tragedy by an individual. We have so recently been able, from the previous publication of *Adelphi*, to express a more digested opinion of its merits than is generally compatible with the time allowed for our criticisms; that we are now compelled to turn to that muse, which is in general the more attractive; but to which, if Sir JOSHUA REYNOLDS had painted from the drama of the nineteenth century, he would not have made GARRICK turn with quite so fascinated an eye.

The day is certainly over when a prologue of Dr. JOHNSON'S used to usher in a comedy, or a week of GOLDSMITH'S, which was to be followed by a Farce of GARRICK'S Managers' doers come shut to almost every comic writer but MORTON, REYNOLDS, DIBDIN and CHERRY; the last of whom, as by far the greatest genius, has the range of both Theatres. Neither Mr. REYNOLDS nor Mr. DIBDIN, however, have this year indulged us with their usual comedy and opera; the former having found his level in a wretched farce and a worse melodrama, and the latter having descended to a pantomime. Of these productions, the very names are not worth recording, those of the first and second being utterly forgotten, and that of the third too well remembered. But of Mr. MORTON'S comedy, as the only successful one of the year, we shall say a few words. *Town and Country* is to be praised only from a little felicity of incident; its language is laboured and puerile, its character shadowy, its humour slender, and its wit a nonentity. Its loud interjection of fashionable vices, and its general good tendency, are certainly some eulogy on its author:... Drury-Lane Theatre has been very unfortunate, or rather judicious, in its choice of comedies for the last season. No less than three have received the town's just condemnation: Mr. HOLCROFT'S *Vindictive Man*, Miss LEE'S *Assignment*, and Mr. CHERRY'S *Day in London*. The first of these is a kind of sequel to the same author's *Road to Ruin*, a play which is kept alive at the other house solely by the vivacity of Mr. LEWIS, whose character of *Goldfinch* was, in the *Vindictive Man*, transferred to Mr. DECAMP and died accordingly. So deplorably indeed did most of a modern author's comedies hang upon the looks of some actor, that the former may now-a-days say to the latter, what a modest poet said to his mistress of nothing more than "the world".

"My play depend upon your eye, "And, when you frown upon it, die..."

Shunted

From Dr W. J. Reilly

Sir, My old friend, Dr Black, from Cheshire (June 16) may be interested to hear of one GP who, when a particularly troublesome patient moves away, always writes *Caveat emptor* in large letters on their medical record envelope before forwarding it to the family doctor who has unwittingly taken them on his list; and of another who, in similar circumstances, invariably makes a last entry in their notes thus, *Hملت*, act 1, scene 1, line 7. Francisco to Bernardo ["For this relief, much thanks."] Yours faithfully, W. J. REILLY, Breffin House, Horseshay, Telford, Shropshire, June 17.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE June 23: The Queen held a Council at 3 pm. There were present the Viscount Whitehall (Lord President), the Lord Belstead (Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food), the Right Hon. Tom King, MP (Secretary of State for Northern Ireland) and the Right Hon. Norman Tebbit, MP (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster).

Dinners

International Award Forum The Duke of Edinburgh, Chairman of the International Award Forum, was host at a dinner held yesterday at the Carlton Club to mark the first meeting of the International Advisory Council. The other speakers were Sir Bernard Scott, Trustee of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, and Sir Eric Neel, National Co-ordinator of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Australia.

Advisory Committee

This afternoon opened the Royal Mint's 11th century Exhibition at Goldsmiths' Hall, London EC2. Mr Brian McGrath was in attendance. His Royal Highness, Patron and Trustee of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this evening hosted a dinner to mark the first meeting of the Advisory Council of the International Award Forum, at the Carlton Club, St James's Street, SW1.

Receptions

National Association for Maternal and Child Welfare The Duchess of Kent attended a reception given by the National Association for Maternal and Child Welfare last night at Guildhall and presented the NACW award of the year to Mother Frances Donica, of Helen House, Oxford. Lady Glenconner, president of the association, received the guests.

Queen Mother

represented by the Earl of Dalhousie at the Memorial Service for the Earl of Haddington which was held in St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh, today. KENSINGTON PALACE June 23: The Prince and Princess of Wales attended the Memorial Service for Sir John Higgs (Treasurer to Their Royal Highnesses and Secretary and Keeper of the Records, Duchy of Cornwall) which was held in the Queen's Chapel, St James's Palace this morning.

YORK HOUSE

ST JAMES'S PALACE June 23: The Duke of Kent, President of the All England Lawn Tennis Club, accompanied by the Duchess of Kent, today attended the opening day of the Wimbledon Championships. Sir Richard Buckley and Mrs Alan Henderson were in attendance.

St Leonard's School

St Leonard's School, St Andrews Mr Barry Henderson, MP, was host at a reception given by the London Seniors of St Leonard's School, St Andrews, at the House of Commons on Friday evening. Miss Martha Hamilton, headmistress, was among those present.

Officers win

The Oxford Bridge Association's annual congress held at the Oxford Town Hall on Sunday resulted in a win for the unaccompanied partnership of Keith Stanley and Peter Briggs, the English Bridge Union chairman and secretary.

Inner Temple

Major scholarships worth £8,000 each were awarded to Mr R.W. Vallou and Mr P.A. Harvey, of Chestport, Gwent, and Clare, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Jeremy Sergeant, of Little London, Hampshire.

Archaeology £5.7m to support digs

The Government has allocated £5.7 million for rescue archaeology in England in the 1986-1987 financial year, including almost \$4 million which will aid nearly 300 separate projects on sites ranging in age from a quarter of a million years old down to the Industrial Revolution. Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, Chairman of English Heritage, said that more than 200 of the projects are completed excavations, where the funds will support post-excavation study and preparation for publication. A further 26 are 'shelved and monuments records', forming local or regional data banks.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S.J. Hoare and Miss M.L. Longfield The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of the late Rev David Hoare and of Lady Lockhart Murray, of Hantsbury, Hampshire, and Melanie, eldest daughter of Brigadier and Mrs Desmond Longfield, of Dowton, Wiltshire.

University news

Striving The Natural Environment Research Council has established a research unit of aquatic biotechnology, costing £750,000, under the direction of Professor John Sargent, previously director of the NERC Institute of Marine Biotechnology in Aberdeen. Dr Graham Brookes, senior lecturer in computer science at Sheffield University, has been appointed professor of computer science and head of the department.

Birthdays today

Mr A.R. Barrowclough, 62; Sir Bernard Braine, MP, 72; Mr Juan Fanguo, 75; Professor Sir Fred Hoyle, 71; Sir Edward Jackson, 61; Mr Brian Johnston, 74; Lord Palmer, 70; Lord Penney, 70; Lord Lindsay, 70; General Sir William Pike, 81; Professor John Postgate, 64; Mr Justice Whitford, 73.

Marriages

Mr J.M. Hobbs and Miss H.L. Miles The marriage took place on Saturday, June 21, at St Nicholas Church, Tyberton Lucas, of Mr and Mrs R.E.T. Hobbs, of Lechlade, Gloucestershire, and Miss Heather Jill Miles, daughter of Mr and Mrs P.J. Miles, of Chippenham, Wiltshire. The Rev Richard Taylor officiated.

Memorial services

The Earl of Haddington The Queen was represented by the Earl of Wemyss and March at a memorial service for the Earl of Haddington held in St Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh, yesterday. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was represented by the Earl of Dalhousie and Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester by Dame Jean Maxwell-Scott.

Appointments

Mr Roger Westbrook to be British High Commissioner in Brunei, in succession to Mr R. F. Cormish. Mr Hayden Phillips to be Director of Management Development, Education and Training at the Cabinet Office (Management and Personnel), in succession to Mr John Mayne, who has been appointed Principal Establishment and Finance Officer at the Department of Health and Social Security.

Latest wills

Ohannes Moves Teghlaghsian, of Hammond, Lebanon, left estate in England and Wales valued at £2,184,510 net. He died intestate. The late Mrs. Margaret Howard Ford, of Westminster, the Olympic athlete, left estate valued at £471,958 net.

Science report

Deep-sea search for eggs ends in aquarium After years of research, scientists have produced fertilized eggs of the chambered nautilus and they hope this will help them to solve mysteries about the evolution of one of the world's most beautiful and ancient creatures. The nautilus is a spiral-shelled animal that lives deep in the western Pacific. The shell was first named by Aristotle, but until recently, scientists knew virtually nothing about how the animal lived.

OBITUARY LORD RUSSELL OF KILLOWEN

Distinguished former Law Lord

Lord Russell of Killowen, a figure of outstanding character and intellect in the legal world who was a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary from 1975 to 1982, died yesterday. He was 78. His appointment as a Law Lord marked the climax of a career distinguished both at the bar and on the bench.



Russell was educated at Beaumont and at Oriel College, Oxford, representing his University against Cambridge at golf. He was called to the Bar by Lincoln's Inn in 1931 and practised, like his father, in the Chancery Division.

When war ended he returned to the Bar. Rather surprisingly, it took him a year or two to rebuild his practice. But as soon as he had done so, he took silk in 1948. His first leading brief was an action for nuisance which he conducted skilfully and won. He never looked back.

In 1951 he was appointed Attorney-General to the Duchy of Cornwall in succession to Walter Monckton, and thereafter is said to have claimed the right to all lost golf balls as bona vacantia when he played golf at St Enodoc in the long vacations. In 1960, Russell was made a Chancery Judge.

As such, he was partly responsible for a new attitude, which proceeded on the assumption that the judges serve the needs of litigants rather than to ascertain whether they were clever at jumping through hoops. In April, 1961, at the age of 53, Russell was appointed the youngest Lord Justice of Appeal.

NIGEL STOCK

Nigel Stock, a character actor familiar from many roles in the theatre and cinema, and on television, has died at the age of 66. A thoroughly reliable player who lent distinction to every aspect of the theatrical repertoire, from Shakespeare through Chekhov to modern farce, he will probably be best remembered for his television portrayal of Dr Watson in the Sherlock Holmes stories.

Middle Temple

Mr Justice Thomas A. Finlay and Sir Barry Sheppard, QC, have been elected honorary masters of the bench of the Middle Temple. Mr B. W. Lewis to be President of the National Association of British and Irish Millers.

Science report

Dr Arnold spent 10 years searching for fertilized eggs in the ocean depths, but he finally found them in the Waikiki Aquarium in Hawaii. Nautilus there had produced sterile eggs. Bruce Carlson, a researcher, attempted to inactivate the ocean temperature in an effort to help the animals to reproduce. It worked.

Births, Marriages, Deaths and In Memoriam

BRITISH MARRIAGES, DEATHS AND IN MEMORIAM £4 a line + 15% VAT (minimum 3 lines) Announcements, authenticated by the name and permanent address of the sender, may be sent to: THE TIMES PO BOX 484 Virginia Street London E1 or telephoned (by telephone subscribers only) to 01-481 3024

DEATHS ALLEN Samuel Carson Fitzwilliam - On June 21st at home at Ladbroke Park, aged 82. Beloved husband of Patricia. Beloved father of Michael and Robin and stepfather of Peter and Audrey. Buried at Golders Green. Burial on June 23rd at 11.30 am. Family flowers only. Donations to The Multiple Sclerosis Society.

GREEN On June 19th 1986 peacefully in Worthing June Sutherland (nee Bateman) aged 81, widow of George Sutherland. Funeral service at Worthing Crematorium on Tuesday June 24th at 11.30 am. Family flowers only. Donations to The Multiple Sclerosis Society.

RUSSELL OF KILLOWEN On June 23rd, peacefully after a short illness, Charles Russell, Lord Russell of Killowen, aged 78. He was the son of the late Lord Russell of Killowen and the late Lady Russell. He was a member of the House of Lords from 1975 to 1982. He was a distinguished lawyer and a member of the House of Lords. He was a member of the House of Lords. He was a member of the House of Lords.

STOCK On Sunday, 22nd June, peacefully at home, Nigel Stock, aged 66. He was the son of the late Mr and Mrs R. E. T. Stock. He was a character actor and a member of the House of Commons. He was a member of the House of Commons. He was a member of the House of Commons.

THORNTON - Rev. Dr Martin Stuart Farrin Thornton, M.A., S.T.D., on June 22nd, after a long illness, at his home, 11, St. Andrew's, London. He was a member of the House of Commons. He was a member of the House of Commons. He was a member of the House of Commons.

WATSON Principal J. Sheen - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Dr J. Sheen, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of St. Andrews will be held in the Parish Church of the Holy Trinity, St. Andrews, on Wednesday, June 25th, at 11.30 am. A service will also be held in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, on Thursday, June 26th, at 11.30 am. The service will be held in the presence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of St. Andrews, and other members of the clergy. The service will be held in the presence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of St. Andrews, and other members of the clergy.

THE ARTS

Television Still no answers

In another of their dramatizations, *Horizon* (BBC2) investigated baby battering. During a long two-part interview, a real therapist faced two actors who played the parents of a child with a broken arm. While the unscripted enterprise took on an exhausting power, it was hard to grasp what exactly the producers (Hillary Henson and Penny Cherris) intended. Beyond allowing us dramatically to understand the terrible circumstances, *Battered Baby* seemed a beautifully acted piece of inconclusive indulgence. To understand in this case was to forgive rather than know how to prevent.

The first part was fairly silent. Speaking in the middle-class riddles of psychoanalysis, Dr Danya Glaser asked all sorts of innocent questions which were met by the parents' monosyllabic refusal to admit striking their child. In this game of lowered eyes and slanted mouths, words were squeezed out of them like air popping in clay.

Plain, animated talking was reserved for the second part, when it became clear that the cat-like husband could not be entrusted with a teddy bear (and that we need to treat children as we ourselves were treated). Particularly good was Gillian Hanna's reading of the crabby mother-in-law.

In another first rate edition, *Open the Box* (Channel 4) looked at how children might be battered by what they see on television. By the age of 16, said one parent, his child would have watched 16,000 murders and not one couple making love. Though not enough children were interviewed, Mike Dibb's programme - finely edited by Ray Bradley in a way that mirrored its subject-matter - covered a lot of very watchable ground.

The series has kept a commendable detachment from its own belly-button (television screens are filmed showing the relevant programmes rather than edited into), and last night's edition sensibly chose to highlight the inconsistencies of the current debate. MPs threatening to stanch the diet of obscenity and violence were gently reminded that the Bible, Squirrel Nutkin and the Home Secretary's thrillers would be banned. On the other hand, a special-effects man who argued that no one believed in the violence was also exposed. Genuinely moved by a stunting accident, the man added, as if it was of secondary importance, "and also he died".

The responsibilities of public service broadcasters were examined in *Are You Being Served* (Wolff) (Channel 4). This worthy waste of time was presented by a girl who resembled a beetle trying to climb out of a pink gin. Polytechnic lecturers complained about the closeness of top broadcasters to Whitehall, Philip Whitehead told us we were threatened with the extinction of taste and Brenda Maddox said we should be far more worried about the telephone service.

Nicholas Shakespeare

The widow of the eminent scientist Sir Julian Huxley has a touching and remarkable tale to tell in her autobiography, *Leaves of the Tulip Tree*. Caroline Moorehead visited Lady Huxley just before publication

The gift of being loyal with humour if not fidelity

When Juliette Huxley was 19 she was sent to London from Switzerland to improve her English. It was 1916. She crossed by train through Europe at war. Chance, in the shape of an employment agency, led her to Garsington Manor, where she was taken on by Lady Ottoline Morrell to teach her eight-year-old daughter. It was there that she met the Huxley brothers, and quite soon afterwards married Julian. He was ten years older, brilliant, powerful, prone to nervous breakdowns and with a view of marriage very few women would have been able to accept.

She has just brought out her autobiography, *Leaves of the Tulip Tree*, an account of their life together, a generous, touching tribute to a man about whom she nevertheless writes, of the time just before they married, "I cannot think why I did not run away, run for miles, but remained spellbound under the flood of his words, like a rabbit bewitched by a stool".

taken her, on and off, seven years. The author who emerges is full of dignity, funny, constantly worrying how to be as clever as the Huxleys? as elegant as the smart Frenchwomen at Unesco? as competent, erudite, talented as the world she observed around her?

Juliette Huxley had been right to be apprehensive, in those weeks before her marriage. Her life with Huxley was not easy. He was not a faithful husband and regarded her attachment to fidelity as a base, rather belittling sentiment. Neither in her book, nor talking, does she try to pretend that it did not matter, referring to his affairs as "figures" and "amourettes" but adding that she is now worried about being too candid. "I feel atrocious pangs of guilt. I feel very naive. I wanted to be honest, but there are times when you should dress things up."

and the result of Huxley's work, for he was later in help found the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and the World Wildlife Fund and to fight hard for the creation of national parks. These are things she feels that he has never received proper recognition for.

There were also the close and excellent friends, the first of them Lady Ottoline Morrell, for whom Juliette Huxley felt great affection; the happy first years in Oxford; the time at the Zoo, unsuccessful for him because he was, she says, hopeless at dealing with committees, but fine for her and their two sons, for she quite liked living where she could hear the lions roar.



comfortable. Behind is an ideal garden: Juliette Huxley has gardened since Garsington days. Huxley never joined in, but liked, she says, to sit in the gardens she made.

and she speaks extremely quickly. "What should I write now? I think I should just wind up my life, like I wound up my book." This is said cheerfully. What really preoccupies her is publication day. "I'm really rather frightened."

André Watts's contribution to the André Previn Music Festival - a hugely challenging all-Liszt programme - was one of those intriguing recitals where even the less satisfying things were somehow instructive as to the extreme range of Liszt's

Rock Level 42 Glastonbury Festival

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David Sinclair

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Galleries

Unseasonably rich and dramatic

Baroque III, 1620-1700
Matthiesen

From Claude to Géricault
Agnew

William Blake and His Contemporaries
Wildenstein

It is one of life's little mysteries that, as soon as the summer or something vaguely approaching it - sets in, commercial galleries all over the West End instantly bring out their heaviest-duty Old Masters for our (perhaps slightly bilious) delectation. Possibly it has something to do with the hoped-for influx of rich Americans waving cheque-books, but it cannot be entirely that alone, since June is very frequently the time for normally selling galleries to do their bit for some worthy cause by putting on rather grand loan exhibitions, catalogues sold in aid of...

Indeed, sometimes the two purposes can be ingeniously combined: Matthiesen's Baroque III (until August 15), completely a selling show, is also in aid of the National Art Collections Fund, and Ag-

new's French paintings from Claude to Géricault (until July 25), mostly a selling show, is in aid of the Friends of the Courtauld Institute, while Wildenstein's William Blake and His Contemporaries (until July 11), being entirely on loan from the Fitzwilliam, is naturally in aid of the Friends of the Fitzwilliam Museum.

Even apart from the possibility of our doing a good deed by buying a catalogue (lively, informative and wearing their sometimes considerable learning lightly in each case), it would be ungracious of us to look so many gift-horses in the mouth. Possibly winter coyness is a better circumstance for looking at rich, dramatic and primarily dark-toned painting like that in the Matthiesen show, but at least Matthiesen's luxuriously old-world (though wholly modern) top-floor gallery has the advantage of a balanced temperature all the year round and as near as may be ideal lighting to view Old Masters.

The latest cull from apparently inexhaustible supplies of baroque paintings in private collections has produced some rather extraordinary finds, though not always, inevitably, by the most famous masters. This year the top gallery is dominated by two physically large and dramatically overpowering paintings, Mattia Preti's *David Playing the Harp before Saul* and Bernardino Mei's *Alexander the Great and the Fates*. Both of them seem

to date from the later 1660s, and both are certainly packed with iconographical significance for any who care to read. Some of it rather obscure, to be sure, but for instance, are there only two Fates in the Mei (unless the third is consigned to an insignificant role in the background), as well as two Alexanders struggling with their destiny, aided by Fame up above and bewailed by Time down below? The Preti is a little more direct, but boldly diversified by a scattering of miscellaneous characters peeping into the composition or gazing out from it while the two named characters concentrate with passionate intensity on the business at hand.

With these two around it is difficult to pay so much attention to Artimisia Gentileschi's *The Death of Cleopatra*, heavy-limbed and still sensuous after the asp has done its work. But downstairs the eye cannot but be drawn by Michael Sweets's *Mars Destroying the Arts*, a swarthy gentleman in armour chopping up statues and stomping on musical instruments as well as slashing paintings - the image is so odd, and only rendered odder by the incidental information that the figure of Mars in his iconoclastic fury appears to be a self-portrait of Sweets. Make of that what you will.

All these paintings seem to call for slow and heavy consideration: not at all the fashion-



Obscure and fascinating iconographical significance in Bernardino Mei's *Alexander the Great and the Fates*

able informality portrayed in Saint-Aubin's charming water-colour *Le Salon de 1755 au Louvre* (pace the Goncourts, who describe it in detail but say it is the Salon of 1781) in the show at Agnew. But then, if we may judge from this and some other pictures in the show, including de Troy's *Lecture de Molière*, the French seem to have long cultivated the special skill of enjoying art while keeping the tone light. And indeed most of the French pictures here manage to fit admirably with the desiderata of summer viewing: complexes they may be,

but *pas compliqués*. There is, for example, at the more imposing end of the scale, a beautiful Claude, *Paysage avec berger et bergères jouant du flageolet*, which has only recently been recognized as such, after cleaning. There are a couple of unusually graceful, almost playful Verneys of Naples seen across water, with lively groups of foreground figures. And there is a particularly delectable Ingres drawing of two little girls, *Les Soeurs Montagu*, in Rome, dressed in their best, all crisp charm and not a hint of sentimentality. Since the Wildenstein show

is made up entirely of loans from the Fitzwilliam, one might suspect that it had little to offer except to those who have not yet found their way to Cambridge in search of Blake. But in fact all the works here can seldom if ever have been shown together in Cambridge, and it does throw new light on Blake, not only to see him in the context of contemporaries like Flaxman, Fuseli and Romney (the Romney of the visionary drawings rather than the relatively staid portraitist), but also to see as many as three radically differently coloured versions of one

image from the illuminated books, as well as a variety of unique proofs and such. There are also original water-colours and paintings in tempera - all emphasizing Blake's uniqueness by juxtaposing him with as like as his period could offer. But, if you are searching for a parallel or a sensible comparison, it is to the future you must look, not to Blake's own time and not any past except that of his own imagination.

John Russell Taylor

St Magnus Festival Characteristically brisk Beethoven

RPO/Davies
Phoenix Cinema,
Kirkwall

On Sunday, following the previous night's televised premiere of Maxwell Davies's *Violin Concerto* in St Magnus Cathedral, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, moved across to the Phoenix, and one rather wished the cameras had

been there again to catch the sight of them playing for Davies, all in white dinner jackets, with behind them the stained, dusty furrows of a lamé curtain in a run-down 1950s cinema.

The programme began with Davies's *Jimmy the Postie*, fittingly dedicated to Ian Barr, the chairman of the Scottish Postal Board whose sponsorship has greatly strengthened the St Magnus Festival in recent years. There had been a

widespread assumption that the new piece would turn out to be Davies's obeisance to the tradition of the British comedy overture, but in fact it was quite straight in its rumbustiousness and fierce changeability of colour, battling through thematic transformations to a Scottish folk-song on solo flute. The tradition to which it belongs is rather that of the "Enigma" Variations, as a character-study of the Hoy postman.

Davies's account afterwards of Beethoven's Seventh Symphony was more in his own character, with incisive staccatos, a notable clarity of counterpoint and insistence on repeated motifs (particularly in the scherzo), powerfully wrought crescendos and strict, brisk tempos.

It was a neat, crisp and somewhat disturbing dissection.

Paul Griffiths

Burning Love Traverse, Edinburgh

A year ago the Traverse gave Franz Xaver Krotz's *Through the Leaves* its British premiere - a brutal, sad portrayal of the emptiness in and around a relationship. Again receiving its first British performance, *Burning Love* by his fellow German playwright Fitzgerald Kusz tackles a similar area, although this time the "lovers" are 30 years younger.

Kusz's play is not so complex, nor his analysis of human behaviour quite so deep or deeply saddening, but his writing is also imbued with a bleak anger about people

Theatre in Scotland

trapped into stereotypes and stereotyped attitudes by modern society.

In a series of brief encounters, freeze-framed into snapshots that the girl, Angie, pins on to her wall, Kusz shows us a summer romance between two teenagers both in dead-end jobs. Their desire to discover common ground cannot bridge the gulf of misunderstanding between them, as they run aground, partly on already entrenched preconceived ideas about relationships, enforced by peer pressure, partly on class differences.

Kusz reworks the well known theme, middle-class girl meets working-class guy, transposed with complete

credibility here to western Scotland in Anthony Vivis and Tinch Minter's translation. The greatest stumbling-block however is their conflicting experience of adolescent crisis - she struggling with an imagined abyss of speculated fears, he looking for a means of self-assertion.

In the end the real tragedy is not what happens to the relationship but the degree to which what happens seems inevitable. Though they both kick against society, the future of the two characters seems almost pre-ordained - Leonard O'Malley and Tracey Spence handle nicely a scene where, as they mimic their respective parents, the voices and attitudes they adopt sud-

denly fit them all too well. Hamish Glen's production, though it lacks edge at the start, gathers momentum towards the twist at the end; and, while Kusz leaves some of the social issues he introduces rather lamely on the surface (such as teenage drinking and work experience), he evokes the pressure-cooker atmosphere painfully well.

Sarah Hemming

● The Royal Academy of Arts is to present an exhibition of 300 pages from 45 of Picasso's sketchbooks, from September 11 to November 23. It will be the first time they have ever been shown in public in Europe.

Concerts Music Projects Almeida Theatre

Jo Kondo, whose music shared this Almeida Festival concert with that of a Japanese colleague from an altogether older generation, Yorisune Matsudaira, is clearly a composer of intriguing originality. He seemed to have invented a special new language for each of his four pieces that we heard on Sunday (all of them receiving their British premieres). But each was also constructed elegantly, and each carefully explained its own, usually simple, premises. The effect was like being taught how to listen all over again.

Kondo, now in his late thirties, is obviously both a sensitive and a gently humorous man. The latter quality was especially evident in *Walk* (1976) for flute (Nancy Ruffer) and piano (Andrew Ball), and not only because of the immense length of the part from which Miss Ruffer had to play. *Walk* was indeed a promenade for two, the joke of it being that sometimes the performers were out of step, sometimes in step. Quite apart from its endearing whimsy, significantly its momentum was far more compelling than that generated by the systemized phrase-changing of Reich and his minimalist disciples. *Falling* (1973) was another

game about near co-ordination, this time in the following-leader tradition. An electric piano did the leading; two violas and a double bass did the following, aiming at unison or double octaves with each other and the piano. The gaps between these coincidences were, however, filled with weird glissandi, producing a memorably individual texture, predominantly dark and eternally fascinating.

For *When Wind Blew* (1975), scored for string quintet, wind quintet, piano and two cymbals, Kondo's inspiration was evidently Webern's *Klangfarbenmelodie*. In Kondo's hands the device yielded something astonishingly mellow, like a nostalgic pastoral; and the work, moreover, ended overtly in C minor.

By 1984, when Kondo wrote *Huntsuckle*, his leaning towards lush textures had apparently gone several stages further. In this work a similar ensemble, with a trumpet and two trombones replacing the cymbals, created a slow-moving chorale whose overlapping, sensual harmonies simply left one speechless with admiration. It certainly provided a sharp contrast with Matsudaira's complex, though in its way equally impressive, counterpoint. Music Projects/London played marvelously.

Stephen Pettitt

André Watts Festival Hall

André Watts's contribution to the André Previn Music Festival - a hugely challenging all-Liszt programme - was one of those intriguing recitals where even the less satisfying things were somehow instructive as to the extreme range of Liszt's

Malcolm Hayes

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Although they came to prominence during the brief era of glamorous pop stars like Boy George and Duran Duran, Level 42 had never had much in the way of looks or image to help them, and their show depended on the old virtues of musicianship and hard work.

On the Glastonbury stage - a converted corrugated, pyramid-shaped structure, normally used by its owner as a cattle shed - they were aided by a barrage of chaotic laser effects

as they hammered through a selection that defied the audience to remain indifferent. The show was dominated by Mark King's swifly pummeled bass-playing and Phil Gould's sharp, clear drumming, and the attack was rooted in surging, insistent rhythmic structures that these two combine and produce.

The guitarist, Boon Gould, occasionally plays quicksilver jazz-funk solo, as in "Micro Kids", but more often confines himself to mixing in with the rhythm, and it was left to Mike Lindup's keyboard, and the combined vocals of him and King, to colour the pulsing beat with melodies and harmonies of a contrasting gentleness. They ranged, within this formula, from the relaxed funk of "Turn it On" and the ballad "Leaving Me Now" to the bullish dance-floor pump of "The Chant Has Begun". As they roared to a finish with "Lessons in Love" it seemed for some tired souls in the audience that the evening had just begun.

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Crash carnage brings government motorway inquiry

By Tim Jones

A government inquiry is to be held into the safety of the motorway central reservation guards at the site of yesterday's M4 crash. Mr John Moore, the new Secretary of State for Transport, said in the Commons yesterday.

Mr Moore expressed sympathy for the victims of the accident but urged MPs to "keep in proportion" the number of deaths on Britain's motorways.

He was asked by Mr Roy Hughes, shadow Transport Secretary, to ensure that the crash inquiry would be as far ranging as possible and would look at the adequacy of the central reservation guards.

Mr Hughes said: "Since it appears the only thing we know about the accident is that the minivan landed on the opposite carriageway, will you have particular regard to the adequacy of the central reservation guards to try and stop this kind of accident happening in future?"

Mr Moore replied: "I will make absolutely certain that those points are pursued effectively."

Responding to protests from Mr Robert Adley, Conservative, that passenger vehicles on roads faced less stringent safety regulations than rail traffic, Mr Moore said: "I do think we ought to keep in proportion the awful tragedy we have seen early this morning."

He added: "Accident rates on motorways are one-third of all those on all-purpose trunk routes and one-eighth of those on all roads. While obviously we must leave no stone unturned to sort out these problems we face, I think we must keep the relatives here."

The Department of Transport emphasized later that the investigation, which would be by police, would be into the crash barriers at the death site and not nationally.



Rescue workers survey the wreckage of the estate car (foreground) and the transit van (behind) early yesterday. A family of four were killed in the car, and nine others died in the van. (Photograph: Richard Reed).



Skidmark and twisted barrier (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Barrier designed to withstand small van

Safety standards relating to crash barriers on British motorways and trunk roads are contained in *Safety Fences and Barriers*, issued by the Department of Transport Highways and Traffic Directorate in June 1985 (Mark Dowd writes).

Barriers such as those on the central reservation of the M4 in yesterday's accident are tested "dynamically" at the Transport and Road Research Laboratory in Crowthorne, Berkshire. A vehicle weighing one and a half tons (about the weight of a small van) is driven at 70mph directly into a barrier at an angle of 20 degrees.

In theory, most of the kinetic energy of the vehicle should be absorbed. The steel in the barrier is designed to be sufficiently elastic to prevent the vehicle from leaping over on to the opposite carriageway and to stop it from bouncing back across the traffic.

The "Armo" type beam is not guaranteed to perform its task if the weight of the vehicle, its speed or its angle of impact are greater than the levels stated in the standard tests. The condition of the vehicle is also a consideration.

Research is continuing into the possible deployment of improved safety barriers, designed to withstand the impact of heavier vehicles.

Most barriers on British motorways were installed in the early 1970s after a series of "crossover" accidents.

13 die as van crosses M4

Continued from page 1
What was the worst disaster to have occurred on the M4.

Sergeant John Wheeler, of Thames Valley Police, said: "The accident will be fully investigated and the question of whether alcohol or drugs were involved will obviously be considered."

Assistant divisional fire officer Frazier Gunn described the horror he encountered on arriving at the crash scene.

"At first I thought the ground was strewn with wreckage from the vehicles, tents and sleeping bags. Then I realized that it was dead bodies that I was stepping over...the carnage was absolutely staggering. There were bodies strewn all over the motorway, mingled with bedding and canvas."

"When I returned home I could not sleep and could only hear the screams of a woman who was dying by the side of the decimated van."

Firemen used heat-activated cameras to search for bodies over a wide area of the embankment and used heavy cutting equipment to reach the family trapped in the car.

Mr Gunn said: "We cut the roof and side from the car so that the ambulancemen and doctors could get at the bodies. There was a mother and father in the front seats and they were both dead. In the back we thought that there were only two other people, a 10-year-old girl and a woman in her late twenties. However, when we moved in on them we found another girl, a teenager, trapped underneath."

He said he and his men were sickened and left numb by their experience of the accident.

As news spread that the victims in the van had been returning from the pop festival at Glastonbury, Somerset, relatives of the thousands of fans who attended the event called police to plead for news.

A spokeswoman for the van hire firm said yesterday: "Some young people hired it on Friday for the weekend. I didn't know what they were going to do with it but there should not have been more than three people in it."

"There are only three seats in the front and it is part of the hire agreement that no more than three people should be carried."

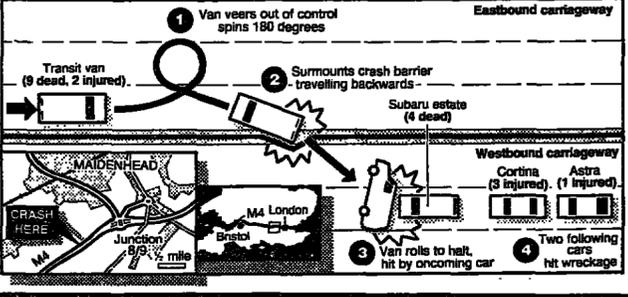
A positive identification of the family who were killed was made by Mr von Kotze's son by a former marriage, Alexander.

He said: "My father was a charming, intelligent and amusing man and a very careful driver." He said Mr von Kotze had worked as a cameraman on a number of Hollywood films and that the family was returning from a two-week holiday in the south of France when the tragedy occurred.

Mr Zbigniew Kasprzyk and his wife Boguslawa, whose Cortina ploughed into the back of the van seconds after it had collided with the von Kotzes' car, said yesterday: "Thank God we are alive."

They had been travelling home to Swindon with their grandmother, Jadwiga, aged 82, when they met the van spread across two lanes of the motorway.

Despite slamming on the brakes, the car smashed into the van. Mrs Kasprzyk said they were saved from serious injury by their seat belts.



Parliament, page 4

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, opens the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Broad Sanctuary, SW1, 3. Later, they attend the annual dinner of The Third Guards Club to mark the 350th anniversary of the completion of the Canterbury Quadrangle. St. Michael at the North Gate Church, Ship St. 4.15; later he visits the University Museum, Parks Rd. 4.55.
The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron of St Peter's Research Trust for the Cure of Kidney Disease, attends a trustees' meeting, St Philip's Hospital, Sheffield St. WC2, 12.45; later, she attends a mid summer ball in aid of the Bobath Centre, Claridge, Brook St. W1, 10.30.
The Duke of Kent, Colonel, Scots Guards, attends the Third Guards Club Dinner, Savoy Hotel, WC2, 7.40.
The Duchess of Kent opens the new Emergency Control Centre, and the new Mountbatten Pavilion at the Royal British Legion Village, and Archery House, Dartford, 11.05; later, she attends a reception and award ceremony given by the National Association for Maternal and Child Welfare, The Crypt, Guildhall, EC2, 7.30.

Music

Piano recital by David Kryker, Wigmore Hall, Wigmore St. W1, 7.30.
Piano recital by Lesley Young, St Vedast, Foster Ln, EC2, 1.10.
Summer concert: Piano recital by John Cogdon; Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly, 7.45.
Recital by Sandra Ford (soprano) and Adrian Hobbs (piano): St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Sq., 1.05.
Recital by Josephine McNally (soprano) and John Tomkins (baritone): St. Clement's Church, Eastcheap, EC4, 1.
Traditional jazz by The Windy City String Quartet, Crawford St. W1, 12.30.

Pollen count

The pollen count for London and the South-east issued by the Asthma Research Council at 10 am yesterday was 10 (very low). Forecast for today, low. For today's recording call British Telecom's Weatherline: 01-246 8091, which is updated each day at 10.30 am.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debates on estimates relating to long-term unemployed and Manpower Services Commission corporate plan and on the environment and Property Services Agency.
Lords (2.30): Wages Bill, committee, first day.

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	2.05	2.05
Austria Sch	24.50	24.50
Belgium F	2.36	2.36
Denmark Kr	11.48	11.48
France F	6.55	6.55
Germany DM	1.93	1.93
Italy L	1.36	1.36
Japan Yen	163.00	163.00
Netherlands Gld	3.60	3.60
Norway Kr	13.48	13.48
Portugal Esc	204.00	204.00
South Africa R	5.00	4.20
Spain Ptas	167.00	167.00
Sweden Kr	11.26	10.71
Switzerland Fr	2.17	2.17
USA \$	1.53	1.48
Yugoslavia Dnr	580.00	540.00

Notes for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.
Retail Price Index: 386
London: The FT Index closed down 18.2 at 2328.2
New York: The Dow Jones closed down 15.25 at 1,864.25

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

TV top ten

- National top ten television programmes in the week ending June 15:
- 1 EastEnders (Thurs/Sun) 17.50m
 - 2 Eastenders (Wed/Sun) 15.35m
 - 3 World Cup Grandstand (Wed) 12.30m
 - 4 That's Life 11.30m
 - 5 News at Ten (Tues) 10.80m
 - 6 News at 10.55m
 - 7 News at 10 (Sun) 22.15m
 - 8 News at 10.30m
 - 9 News at 9.30m
 - 10 News at 9 (Wed) 9.15m
- ITV
- 1 Coronation Street (Mon) Granada 13.65m
 - 2 Coronation Street (Wed) Granada 13.65m
 - 3 Coronation Street (Tue) Yorkshire 11.50m
 - 4 Crossroads (Tues) Central 11.30m
 - 5 Crossroads (Mon) Central 10.50m
 - 6 Crossroads (Wed) Central 10.50m
 - 7 News at 5 (Tues) ITN 9.50m
 - 8 News at 5 (Wed) Central 9.75m
 - 9 Cats Eye 7.50m
- BBC
- 1 A Very Peculiar Practice 6.55m
 - 2 The 100th Hour 5.25m
 - 3 Horizon (Mon/Sat) 3.25m
 - 4 The 100th Hour 3.80m
 - 5 Breaker Morant 3.75m
 - 6 The Rise and Fall of Reginald Perrin 3.7m
 - 7 Moonlighting 3.15m
 - 8 Wimbledon 3.10m
 - 9 Just Another Day 3.00m
- Channel 4
- 1 Brookside (Mon/Sat) 4.65m
 - 2 Brookside (Tues) 4.70m
 - 3 St Elmo 4.15m
 - 4 The 100th Hour 3.80m
 - 5 Johnny Brains 3.30m
 - 6 Open the Box 3.10m
 - 7 The 100th Hour 3.10m
 - 8 The Great Plant Collections 2.50m
 - 9 Bowed Out 2.55m

Broadcasters' Audience Research Board

Times Portfolio Gold rates are as follows:
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3. Check your overall total against the figures in the column provided. If you are correct, you will see your overall total plus or minus (+ or -).
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7. Employees of News International plc and its subsidiaries and of Newsprint News Limited (publishers and distributors of the card) or members of their immediate families are not eligible to claim.
8. All participants will be subject to these Rules. All instructions on "how to play" are contained in the Times Portfolio. The Editor reserves the right to amend the Rules, in any way, at any time. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Roads

London and the south east: A3 London bound traffic on Kingston bypass reduced to one lane due to roadworks. A25: Roadworks at the junction with Dorking High St. Westbound A25: the town centre A25, A24 and A3 during the tennis championships.
The M4: Heavy Roadworks around junction 1 (A26 Rugby), two lanes open in contraflow arrangement. M5: Two lane contraflow roadworks between junctions 4 (Bromsgrove) and 5 (Droitwich). M1: Two lanes open in each direction between junctions 15 (A500) and 16 (A45) with exit and access points at junction 15 closed for two weeks.
The M25: Heavy Roadworks between Aythya and Burntisland interchanges. Co Durham, with N bound contraflow and slip roads closed. contraflow and diversions. M16: Delays and contraflow between junctions 6 and 9, with contraflow on slip roads. M16: reconstruction at Tyne and Wear junction with A1088 (coast rd, The Moor House).
The M6: Heavy Roadworks on contraflow between junctions 8 (M50 Walsley) and 10 (A4919 Cheltenham) with contraflow on slip roads. M6: delays on Bath Rd, Bristol, between Eagle Rd and Kensington Pk Rd.

Anniversaries

Births: Sir John Ross, arctic explorer, Balaoroch, near Stranraer, 1777; Horatio Herbert Kitchener, Listowel, Co Kerry, 1850.
Deaths: John Hampden, parliamentarian, Thame, Oxfordshire, 1643; Adam Lindsay Gordon, poet, New Brighton, 1870; 1871; 1872; 1873; 1874; 1875; 1876; 1877; 1878; 1879; 1880; 1881; 1882; 1883; 1884; 1885; 1886; 1887; 1888; 1889; 1890; 1891; 1892; 1893; 1894; 1895; 1896; 1897; 1898; 1899; 1900; 1901; 1902; 1903; 1904; 1905; 1906; 1907; 1908; 1909; 1910; 1911; 1912; 1913; 1914; 1915; 1916; 1917; 1918; 1919; 1920; 1921; 1922; 1923; 1924; 1925; 1926; 1927; 1928; 1929; 1930; 1931; 1932; 1933; 1934; 1935; 1936; 1937; 1938; 1939; 1940; 1941; 1942; 1943; 1944; 1945; 1946; 1947; 1948; 1949; 1950; 1951; 1952; 1953; 1954; 1955; 1956; 1957; 1958; 1959; 1960; 1961; 1962; 1963; 1964; 1965; 1966; 1967; 1968; 1969; 1970; 1971; 1972; 1973; 1974; 1975; 1976; 1977; 1978; 1979; 1980; 1981; 1982; 1983; 1984; 1985; 1986; 1987; 1988; 1989; 1990; 1991; 1992; 1993; 1994; 1995; 1996; 1997; 1998; 1999; 2000; 2001; 2002; 2003; 2004; 2005; 2006; 2007; 2008; 2009; 2010; 2011; 2012; 2013; 2014; 2015; 2016; 2017; 2018; 2019; 2020; 2021; 2022; 2023; 2024; 2025; 2026; 2027; 2028; 2029; 2030; 2031; 2032; 2033; 2034; 2035; 2036; 2037; 2038; 2039; 2040; 2041; 2042; 2043; 2044; 2045; 2046; 2047; 2048; 2049; 2050; 2051; 2052; 2053; 2054; 2055; 2056; 2057; 2058; 2059; 2060; 2061; 2062; 2063; 2064; 2065; 2066; 2067; 2068; 2069; 2070; 2071; 2072; 2073; 2074; 2075; 2076; 2077; 2078; 2079; 2080; 2081; 2082; 2083; 2084; 2085; 2086; 2087; 2088; 2089; 2090; 2091; 2092; 2093; 2094; 2095; 2096; 2097; 2098; 2099; 2100; 2101; 2102; 2103; 2104; 2105; 2106; 2107; 2108; 2109; 2110; 2111; 2112; 2113; 2114; 2115; 2116; 2117; 2118; 2119; 2120; 2121; 2122; 2123; 2124; 2125; 2126; 2127; 2128; 2129; 2130; 2131; 2132; 2133; 2134; 2135; 2136; 2137; 2138; 2139; 2140; 2141; 2142; 2143; 2144; 2145; 2146; 2147; 2148; 2149; 2150; 2151; 2152; 2153; 2154; 2155; 2156; 2157; 2158; 2159; 2160; 2161; 2162; 2163; 2164; 2165; 2166; 2167; 2168; 2169; 2170; 2171; 2172; 2173; 2174; 2175; 2176; 2177; 2178; 2179; 2180; 2181; 2182; 2183; 2184; 2185; 2186; 2187; 2188; 2189; 2190; 2191; 2192; 2193; 2194; 2195; 2196; 2197; 2198; 2199; 2200; 2201; 2202; 2203; 2204; 2205; 2206; 2207; 2208; 2209; 2210; 2211; 2212; 2213; 2214; 2215; 2216; 2217; 2218; 2219; 2220; 2221; 2222; 2223; 2224; 2225; 2226; 2227; 2228; 2229; 2230; 2231; 2232; 2233; 2234; 2235; 2236; 2237; 2238; 2239; 2240; 2241; 2242; 2243; 2244; 2245; 2246; 2247; 2248; 2249; 2250; 2251; 2252; 2253; 2254; 2255; 2256; 2257; 2258; 2259; 2260; 2261; 2262; 2263; 2264; 2265; 2266; 2267; 2268; 2269; 2270; 2271; 2272; 2273; 2274; 2275; 2276; 2277; 2278; 2279; 2280; 2281; 2282; 2283; 2284; 2285; 2286; 2287; 2288; 2289; 2290; 2291; 2292; 2293; 2294; 2295; 2296; 2297; 2298; 2299; 2300; 2301; 2302; 2303; 2304; 2305; 2306; 2307; 2308; 2309; 2310; 2311; 2312; 2313; 2314; 2315; 2316; 2317; 2318; 2319; 2320; 2321; 2322; 2323; 2324; 2325; 2326; 2327; 2328; 2329; 2330; 2331; 2332; 2333; 2334; 2335; 2336; 2337; 2338; 2339; 2340; 2341; 2342; 2343; 2344; 2345; 2346; 2347; 2348; 2349; 2350; 2351; 2352; 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2520; 2521; 2522; 2523; 2524; 2525; 2526; 2527; 2528; 2529; 2530; 2531; 2532; 2533; 2534; 2535; 2536; 2537; 2538; 2539; 2540; 2541; 2542; 2543; 2544; 2545; 2546; 2547; 2548; 2549; 2550; 2551; 2552; 2553; 2554; 2555; 2556; 2557; 2558; 2559; 2560; 2561; 2562; 2563; 2564; 2565; 2566; 2567; 2568; 2569; 2570; 2571; 2572; 2573; 2574; 2575; 2576; 2577; 2578; 2579; 2580; 2581; 2582; 2583; 2584; 2585; 2586; 2587; 2588; 2589; 2590; 2591; 2592; 2593; 2594; 2595; 2596; 2597; 2598; 2599; 2600; 2601; 2602; 2603; 2604; 2605; 2606; 2607; 2608; 2609; 2610; 2611; 2612; 2613; 2614; 2615; 2616; 2617; 2618; 2619; 2620; 2621; 2622; 2623; 2624; 2625; 2626; 2627; 2628; 2629; 2630; 2631; 2632; 2633; 2634; 2635; 2636; 2637; 2638; 2639; 2640; 2641; 2642; 2643; 2644; 2645; 2646; 2647; 2648; 2649; 2650; 2651; 2652; 2653; 2654; 2655; 2656; 2657; 2658; 2659; 2660; 2661; 2662; 2663; 2664; 2665; 2666; 2667; 2668; 2669; 2670; 2671; 2672; 2673; 2674; 2675; 2676; 2677; 2678; 2679; 2680; 2681; 2682; 2683; 2684; 2685; 2686; 2687; 2688; 2689; 2690; 2691; 2692; 2693; 2694; 2695; 2696; 2697; 2698; 2699; 2700; 2701; 2702; 2703; 2704; 2705; 2706; 2707; 2708; 2709; 2710; 2711; 2712; 2713; 2714; 2715; 2716; 2717; 2718; 2719; 2720; 2721; 2722; 2723; 2724; 2725; 2726; 2727; 2728; 2729; 2730; 2731; 2732; 2733; 2734; 2735; 2736; 2737; 2738; 2739; 2740; 2741; 2742; 2743; 2744; 2745; 2746; 2747; 2748; 2749; 2750; 2751; 2752; 2753; 2754; 2755; 2756; 2757; 2758; 2759; 2760; 2761; 2762; 2763; 2764; 2765; 2766; 2767; 2768; 2769; 2770; 2771; 2772; 2773; 2774; 2775; 2776; 2777; 2778; 2779; 2780; 2781; 2782; 2783; 2784; 2785; 2786; 2787; 2788; 2789; 2790; 2791; 2792; 2793; 2794; 2795; 2796; 2797; 2798; 2799; 2800; 2801; 2802; 2803; 2804; 2805; 2806; 2807; 2808; 2809; 2810; 2811; 2812; 2813; 2814; 2815; 2816; 2817; 2818; 2819; 2820; 2821; 2822; 2823; 2824; 2825; 2826; 2827; 2828; 2829; 2830; 2831; 2832; 2833; 2834; 2835; 2836; 2837; 2838; 2839; 2840; 2841; 2842; 2843; 2844; 2845; 2846; 2847; 2848; 2849; 2850; 2851; 285

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1338.2 (-15.2) FT-SE 100 1822.8 (-14.4) Bargains 23889 USM (Datastream) 123.4 (+0.36) THE POUND US Dollar 1.5025 (+0.0010) W German mark 3.3731 (+0.0082) Trade-weighted 75.7 (same)

Ibstock in cash call

Ibstock Johnsen, the brick manufacturer, is shorting up its finances by asking shareholders for £2.5 million. They are being asked to subscribe for a one-for-four rights issue at 148p.

Shepard sold

Hanson Industries is selling Shepard Clothing, a US manufacturer of men's suits, to a group of investors, which includes the management, for £22 million.

Dividend up

Brown & Tawse, the distribution company, lifted profits from £5.36 million to £5.73 million before tax in the year to March 31.

Avana up

The food manufacturer Avana Group reported pretax profits of £20.2 million for the year to March 29, 1986, up 3.6 per cent on last year.

Opec optimism

Sheikh Ahmed Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, said yesterday he expected progress on Opec agreement for production sharing when the organization meets in Yugoslavia starting tomorrow.

Profits jump

Illingworth, Morris, the largest wool manufacturer of its kind in Europe, made pretax profits of £6.18 million in the year to the end of March - up from £4.14 million.

EEC prices up

Consumer prices in the EEC rose by 0.2 per cent last month compared with April and were up by 2.3 per cent on May, 1985, according to Eurostat, the EEC's statistical agency.

Hawley buy

Mr Michael Ashcroft's Hawley Group is mopping up the Home Counties Cleaning Group in a deal worth £4.8 million.

Rotaflex 'No'

Rotaflex yesterday rejected Emess Lighting's increased and final £54 million bid as wholly inadequate.

Bedford to axe 1,700 jobs after losses rise to £73m

Bedford Trucks, the British commercial vehicle arm of General Motors, yesterday announced 1985 losses of £73 million and said that 1,700 jobs would be axed at the plants at Luton and Dunstable in Bedfordshire. The job losses were expected after the collapse of merger talks between GM and the state-controlled Land Rover-Leyland earlier this year.

24 companies launch drive to increase British exports

Senior executives from 24 leading British companies yesterday launched the government-backed Movement for International Trade, a body committed to finding and exploiting "market-led, world-bearing products" for the 1990s and to spearheading a new British industrial export drive.



Sir Peter Parker: Need for internationalism not disappointed.

Indicators point to downturn

Growth in the economy has weakened, according to the Government's cyclical indicators for the economy, published yesterday. There are also tentative signs of a further downturn in the economy.

Eleco rejects £25m bid from Whitecroft

Whitecroft, the Cheshire property-to-lighting group, launched a £25 million bid yesterday for Eleco Holdings, an industrial firm involved in similar areas.

Dixons queries profits

Dixons Group has renewed its call on Woolworth Holdings to reveal the net profits and return on investment it makes from the new look Focus stores.

LIT plans 'cheaper broking'

London Investment Trust, which is the largest clearer of futures and options in Chicago, plans to compete with London's traditional stockbrokers and jobbers dealing in British equities after the big bang.

£12m purchase of Milletts by Sears 'is not a rescue'

The corporate appetite for an increased high street presence received a small satisfaction yesterday when Sears, whose interests include Deicis, Selfridges and William Hill, the bookmaker, bought Milletts Leisure Shops, the camping and leisure clothing group, for £12 million.

Banks ready for fight on financial services

The Financial Services Bill sailed through its third reading in the House of Commons, but as it heads towards the Lords there is still a furious debate over substantial parts of the new legislation. The banks are in the thick of it and, if they have their way, there come before the blue print for investor-protection is complete.

Another excellent year with increased balance sheet strength to support our development plans.

Advertisement for Dawson International, including highlights of the year: Pre-tax profit up 20%, Earnings per share up 19%, Capital expenditure up 36%. Summary of results for 1986 and 1985.

MARKET SUMMARY table with columns for STOCK MARKETS, MAIN PRICE CHANGES, GOLD, CURRENCIES, and INTEREST RATES.

Table with columns for STOCK MARKETS, MAIN PRICE CHANGES, GOLD, and NORTH SEA OIL.

Advertisement for Dawson International, featuring the company logo and the slogan 'Quality from start to finish'.

WALL STREET

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Share prices finished lower in moderate trading yesterday as the blue chip sector surrendered late on Friday.

Part of yesterday's selling was attributed to futures-related "sell" programmes, while virtually all of Friday's sharp blue-chip gains were reported to be linked with the close-out of trading in June stock index

futures, index options and individual stock options. Some market participants, nevertheless, said that they were selling for more fundamental reasons.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell by 15.29 points to 1,864.36. Narrow premiums on some stock index futures triggered some arbitrage "sell" plans in the final hour of trading, sharpening the losses in the industrial average.

Table with columns for stock symbols (e.g., AXLN, AIG, AIA) and their corresponding prices and changes.

Table with columns for stock symbols (e.g., Frestone, FSI, FSI) and their corresponding prices and changes.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table titled 'STERLING AND FORWARD RATES' showing market rates for various currencies and forward rates for different terms.

Table titled 'MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD' showing base rates for clearing banks, discount market loans, and gold prices.

COMMODITIES

Table titled 'LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE' showing prices for various commodities like sugar, cocoa, and coffee.

Table titled 'DOLLAR SPOT RATES' showing exchange rates for various countries including Ireland, Singapore, and Malaysia.

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK

Table showing prices for various types of meat and livestock, including beef, sheep, and pigs.

Table showing prices for various types of grain and other commodities, including wheat, barley, and oats.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

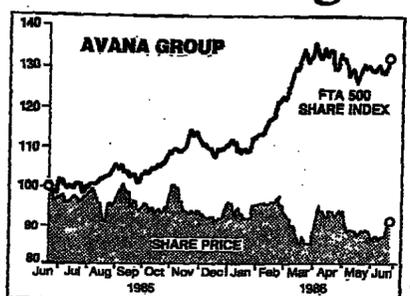
Large table listing various investment trusts with columns for company names, prices, and changes. Includes sections for 'FINANCIAL TRUSTS' and 'INVESTMENT TRUSTS'.

TEMPUS

Avana Group loses its glamour rating

Avana Group, the one-time glamour stock, came nowhere near market expectations with its preliminary results announced yesterday. In the year to March 29, 1986, pretax profit was £20.2 million, an apparent improvement on the £19.5 million of 1984-85.

Closer examination, however, reveals that the group included in pretax profit £2.1 million described as "other operating income", which in reality was capital gains made on the sale of a variety of quoted investments and marketable securities.



Strip these out and pretax profit on normal activities fell by 7 per cent to £18 million on turnover up 4.6 per cent to £202.5 million. This is a long way below the £21.5 million analysts were going for at the interim stage.

Avana is best known as a supplier of specialist meat products to Marks and Spencer. This division is now doing well after the delayed completion of a factory.

Its Viota subsidiary, which makes high-quality traditional cereals, is doing less well. Having carved out a highly profitable niche in own-label cereals, it is now finding its markets under attack from the makers of extruded cereal. The loss of £4 million in turnover as a result of new entrants, especially the Co-op, has been a serious blow, and Dr JS Randall, the chairman, will be happy if he can make that up by the year end through increased exports and new products at home.

tennis balls for Wimbledon tonight, cloth for the overcoats of the Politburo members, and the Pope's apparel, is now clearly through the first phase of recovery and preparing for expansion.

So far Mr Lewis - who owns 51 per cent of the shares - has concentrated on remedial action. Borrowings of more than £20 million have been replaced by £2.6 million of net cash and the non-performing bulk worsted weaving subsidiary has been sold. The South African interests were disposed of in the nick of time last year and all the remaining subsidiaries are now profitable.

Most importantly, Mr Lewis has re-oriented the group towards design-conscious products and is striving to establish the Crombie name as more than just a range of men's overcoats. The shares have responded by rising from below 10p in the summer of 1983 when Mr Lewis was battling for control, to 127p yesterday, down 2p on the day.

Avana's preserves subsidiary, James Robertson & Sons, is also suffering from pressures on margins due to overcapacity in jam and marmalade manufacturing. Logically, in the end, some capacity will need to be shut, but Avana intends to keep its single factory in production.

For the year to March 1987, Robert Brand, of stockbroker Wood Mackenzie is looking for pretax profit to rise to £21.5 million, but this includes £1.2 million of investment gains, implying an underlying profit recovery of a little more than £2 million.

Assuming a tax charge of 32 per cent, earnings per share will be 41.8p, putting Avana on a price/earnings multiple of 12.8. It continues to generate large amounts of cash - it had £10.8 million of cash and investments at the year end, nearly twice what it had at the previous year end. But Avana has deservedly now lost its premium rating, probably for good.

Iltingworth, Morris

An improbable group of people should be relieved at the success Alan Lewis has made at Iltingworth, Morris in transforming the company from profits of £21,000 in 1982-83 to last year's £6.2 million. The manufacturer of

pretax profits of £6.9 million would put the company on a prospective p/e ratio of 11. The yield is now a more visible 3.9 per cent.

Brown & Tawse

Brown & Tawse has an image problem. In the City, it is regarded as a steel stockholder, but this activity now accounts for only 20 per cent of turnover.

The main business, accounting for more than 70 per cent of sales, is distributing what the company calls pipeline equipment. The terminology suggests steel tubes, but a better description would be central heating, air-conditioning and plumbing components. In addition, it has a small construction plant business.

Despite this misunderstanding about the nature of Brown & Tawse's business, its shares have been good performers. Since Mr Swraj Paul's Caparo Industries sold its 16 per cent stake last year, the shares have risen from 126p to 176p (down 6p yesterday).

Pretax profits for the year to March 31 were slightly worse than expected at £5.73 million, but still up from £5.36 million. The company says the fourth quarter was disappointing, reflecting reports from a number of other engineering companies.

Business since March has not been much stronger, though PJ Holloway, a London distributor of fans and air-distribution equipment acquired last year for £2.25 million, has made a good start.

In all, Brown & Tawse spent £3.2 million on four acquisitions last year, taking its borrowings to 30 per cent of shareholders' funds. More acquisitions are planned.

Assuming profits rise to £6.2 million in the current year, the shares are trading on less than 10 times prospective earnings. They yield 5.8 per cent.

This looks low compared with other distributors such as British Steam Specialities - which is also in the "pipeline" business - and distinctly mispriced against the ratings accorded to stock market favourites such as FH Tompkins, now cum Pegler-Hattersley.

Rather than going for an increase in sales, Mr Lewis is aiming for margins. The Crombie ready-to-wear lines, which last year sold 30,000 units, have recently hoisted retail prices without damaging forward sales. With £75 on the retail price of an overcoat, the company believes it is protecting its quality image.

The thrust to get nearer to the consumer means that almost half of Crombie's output in two years should be in own-made garments. Similar developments are planned at John G Hardy and the company has already considered moving directly into retailing, casting more than a passing eye over John Collier.

Iltingworth, Morris is transforming the company from profits of £21,000 in 1982-83 to last year's £6.2 million. The manufacturer of

Opec oil ministers divided before crucial meeting

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The oil ministers of the 13 member nations of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries have already split into two groups in the run-up to their crisis meeting in Yugoslavia tomorrow.

The meeting is scheduled to run until Saturday, and there are signs that any agreement reached will be fragile.

The conservative Gulf states, led by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, have been joined by Nigeria and Indonesia in their campaign to maintain Opec's market share by pumping more oil.

New figures from a source close to the Saudi Arabian oil ministry yesterday suggested that Opec is producing 19 million barrels of oil a day, more than 2½ million barrels

a day above agreed quotas. Libya, Algeria and Iraq, on the other hand, want prices forced upwards by the imposition of strict output cuts.

Ecuador, although a small producer, has now joined that camp. Its oil minister said yesterday: "Prices are more important than volume."

The meeting will open with renewed pleas for non-Opec producers such as Britain to accept some form of output restraint to force prices upwards but while Saudi Arabia and Kuwait pursue a policy of maintaining their market share simply by cutting prices, the split within Opec could become deeper than the split between Opec and the non-Opec producers.

The first division is likely to emerge soon after the meeting is officially declared open when a new president has to be chosen.

The current president, Senator Arturo Grisanti, the Venezuelan oil minister, was depressed at the end of the last ministerial meeting at its failure to reach a consensus, and he is not keen to continue in the chair.

Wood Mackenzie, the leading oil industry broker, is more optimistic than most that the meeting will end in agreement. The company's oil analysts said yesterday: "We believe the prospects for an agreement are improving and that the market is underestimating such a possibility."

Unions fear closure of Plessey plant

The trade unions at Plessey's head office at Ilford, Essex, yesterday came out strongly against GEC's £1.13 billion bid.

An independent report commissioned by the six unions gives warning of the "grave threat of closure" to the plant which produces technical military radios. The Monopolies and Mergers Commission is due to report on the bid next month.

The unions believe that the future of the site and its 2,000 workers is unsure, even under Plessey, but that if the bid succeeds either Ilford or a corresponding GEC site would be closed.

They say that Plessey should diversify into the production of high growth non-military markets such as cellular radios at Ilford.

The unions represented are ASTMS, EETPU, IASS, TGWU, APEX, and AEU.

Names receive £2m compensation offer

By Allison Eadie

Lloyd's names on Brooks & Dooley syndicates have been made a compensation offer worth more than £2 million after two years of intensive negotiations.

The offer has been hammered out between Mr Raymond Brooks, former chairman of the Brooks & Dooley underwriting agency, who was expelled from Lloyd's in December, 1984, and Mr Jack Alston, independent chairman of the agency. Mr Mark Farrer, chairman of a representative committee of names, has recommended the offer.

The offer provides for Mr Brooks to supervise the run-off (closing down) of the Fidentia Marine Insurance Company, based in Bermuda, for a salary of \$30,000 (£33,000) for one year, renewable at the committee's option.

Although Mr Brooks was

expelled from Lloyd's for failing to disclose that he controlled Fidentia, a company through which he was channelling syndicate reinsurance, he was felt to be the best person to manage the run-off because he understood the business written. Mr Brooks will be released from any liability and share in the proceeds of the run-off.

A Lloyd's report estimated that Fidentia had gained a net £6.2 million from Brooks & Dooley syndicates. Since then Fidentia has met, or will meet, claims worth £3 million in excess of the premiums paid.

The offer will be taxed by the Inland Revenue at the rate of 35 per cent on money realized by the end of this year, 60 per cent on money next year and 65 per cent thereafter. The deal with the Revenue will settle names' tax problems and allow them to claim tax relief on losses.

Vickers in talks on Ordnance tank plant

By Teresa Poole

Discussions are under way between Vickers and the Ministry of Defence about the future of the Royal Ordnance tank factory at Leeds.

After the indefinite postponement last week of Royal Ordnance's stock market flotation, Vickers has asked for financial information on the state-owned company's tank business.

Controversy over a £100 million order for Challenger tanks, which was due to be placed with Royal Ordnance without a competitive tender, contributed to the last-minute postponement of privatization. Without the order, the future for the Leeds operation and its 5,000 employees, looked uncertain.

The Ministry of Defence is now considering alternative methods of privatization, including the feasibility of selling parts of the company to private buyers.

Vickers has its own tank-manufacturing facilities in Newcastle but the demand for main battle tanks is not thought to be sufficient to keep both plants operating profitably. The closure of one of the plants would remove the scope for competition and put thousands of jobs at stake.

Vickers said yesterday it was "keeping its options open."

At the British Army Equipment Exhibition yesterday, Mr Roger Pinnington, chief executive at Royal Ordnance, said his company was confident of winning any competitive tender for the tank order.

Royal Ordnance had expected to announce the order this week. The company maintains it was prepared for privatization - in contrast to statements by Mr George Younger, the Defence Secretary, that it did not have all the necessary features in place.

Racal slips amid fears of £200m rights issue

By Michael Clark

Nervous selling clipped 6p from Racal Electronics at 194p in late trading yesterday, amid growing fears in the market that the group will announce a big rights issue along with its preliminary results later today.

Marketmen claimed that Sir Ernest Harrison, the chairman and chief executive, would decide to take advantage of

Last night the stags were predicting a 500p striking price for the Morgan Grenfell tender offer.

The rest of the equity market continued to drift throughout the day on lack of interest. The weekend strength of Wall Street offered little inspiration. Two gloomy surveys of the economy took their toll. As a result, the FT 30-share index finished 15.2 down at 1,338.2, while the broader FT-SE 100 lost 14.4 at 1,622.8.

Glits spent a lacklustre day, closing virtually unchanged on Friday's levels.

Yellowhammer, the USM-quoted advertising group, held steady at 156p. We should hear soon that Mr Jon Summerill - the chairman - and fellow-director, Mr Jeremy Pemberton, have sold 1 million shares (10 per cent) between them following last week's figures.

recent recovery prospects to ask shareholders for an extra £200 million to help pay off growing debts. Terms were even mentioned on the basis of one-for-four at 170p. But with Racal expected to produce figures showing a fall in pretax profits, for the year to March 31, from £132.3 million to between £88 million and £100 million, the City may have felt the group was pushing its luck.

Last night, a spokesman for Racal said that the group would not be announcing a rights issue with the figures.

The rest of the equity market opened the second leg of the account in a lethargic mood. Investors already heavily involved with the Thames Television and Morgan Grenfell flotations decided to remain on the sidelines.

Dealers complained that, with all the market's spare cash now earmarked for both these issues, turnover elsewhere was down to a trickle.

396p, after 401p, following a meeting with Savory Millin, the broker.

Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puan, the Malaysian financier, has been buying more shares in Exco International, the money broking and financial services group. This time he has acquired 1.2 million shares, taking his total holding to 66.85 million, or 28.55 per cent. Exco failed to respond to the news, finishing 3p lower at 224p.

Meanwhile, Mr Reg Briery, the New Zealand entrepreneur, has been increasing his stake in Horizon Travel, the package holidays group. He now speaks for 5.75 million shares (11.52 per cent). At the previous count, his holding was just under 7.5 per cent. Bass, the brewer, remains Horizon's biggest independent shareholder, with 25.62 per cent of the votes.

On the bid front, Mifletts Leisure jumped 30p to 215p following the agreed bid of 231p a share from Sears Holdings, the Selfridges department store and Saxone

shoe retailing group. The bid values Mifletts at £1.2 million. Sears, which recently bought Foster Brothers, slipped 1.5p to 124.5p.

Eleco Holdings, the construction, engineering and property group, jumped 9p to 150p after rejecting terms from its rival, Whitecroft. Talks about a merger broke down earlier this month after

Watch for acquisitions at Wace Group, which performs printing services for advertising agencies and is now well down the recovery road. The shares stand at a peak of 55p and, in the present year, the company could make up to £500,000 against £284,000 - and the heavy losses of just two years ago.

failure to agree a price. Whitecroft is now offering three of its shares for every five Eleco.

This values Eleco at £25 million. Whitecroft was 1p firmer at 245p, despite reporting a dip in pretax profits from £7.46 million to £7.2 million for the year to March 31 last.

The retail sector encountered some sporadic selling, led by Marks and Spencer, 4p lower at 197p, after 195p. Dealers fear that analysts will be forced to downgrade their profit estimates for the current year.

This came after an article in *The Times* on Saturday highlighting the problems the company has had to face owing to the poor start to summer and the absence of American tourists. The company is expected to meet brokers this week.

Profit-taking clipped 2p from Next at 260p and left Laura Ashley 3p easier at 210p.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES		SOUNDTRACKS (40p)	
Accord Pub (125p)	141 -1	Task Force (85p)	106
Alumasc (150p)	151	Tech For Bus (110p)	118
Arington (115p)	178 -6	Tempus (215p)	208
Ashley (L) (135p)	210 -3	Tenby (110p)	120
Barker (Quoted) (150p)	151	Usher (Frank) (100p)	82 +1
Black (147p)	137 -4	Westbury (145p)	161
Br Island (50p)	58	Woracster (110p)	149
Brodens (145p)	160 -3		
Campbell Armstrong (110p)	110 -1	RIGHTS ISSUES	
Clarke Hooper (130p)	125 +2	Amari N/P	7
Dean & B (50p)	62	Amotagama N/P	148
Denshron (50p)	63	Center Asia F/P	338
Eadie (95p)	42	Cliffords Gaires N/P	30 +2
Evans Hallowell (120p)	122 -2	Clean (L) N/P	345
Fields (MFS) (140p)	120	Five Oaks N/P	6 -1
Gannet Corp (150p)	154	Friendly Hotels N/P	5 -1
Hogges (L) (140p)	143	Gerrard N/P	28 -2
Hudson (85p)	92	Lap F/P	286 -12
Jury's Hotel (115p)	105	Nat West N/P	17 -2
Lopez (145p)	131	Neil & Spencer N/P	
Monotype (57p)	157 +1	(Issue price in brackets)	
Savage (100p)	104 +1		

Business is picking up. (Followed by treatment and disposal.)

The amount of rubbish produced in this country is staggering.

Every year, London alone produces some three million tonnes of domestic waste, to which trade and industry add millions more.

Thankfully, this is something that many people need never worry about.

Because, faced with huge amounts of domestic and industrial waste, many companies and local authorities simply leave it all in our hands.

Or more accurately, in our laboratory-controlled treatment facilities, our containers and our landfill sites.

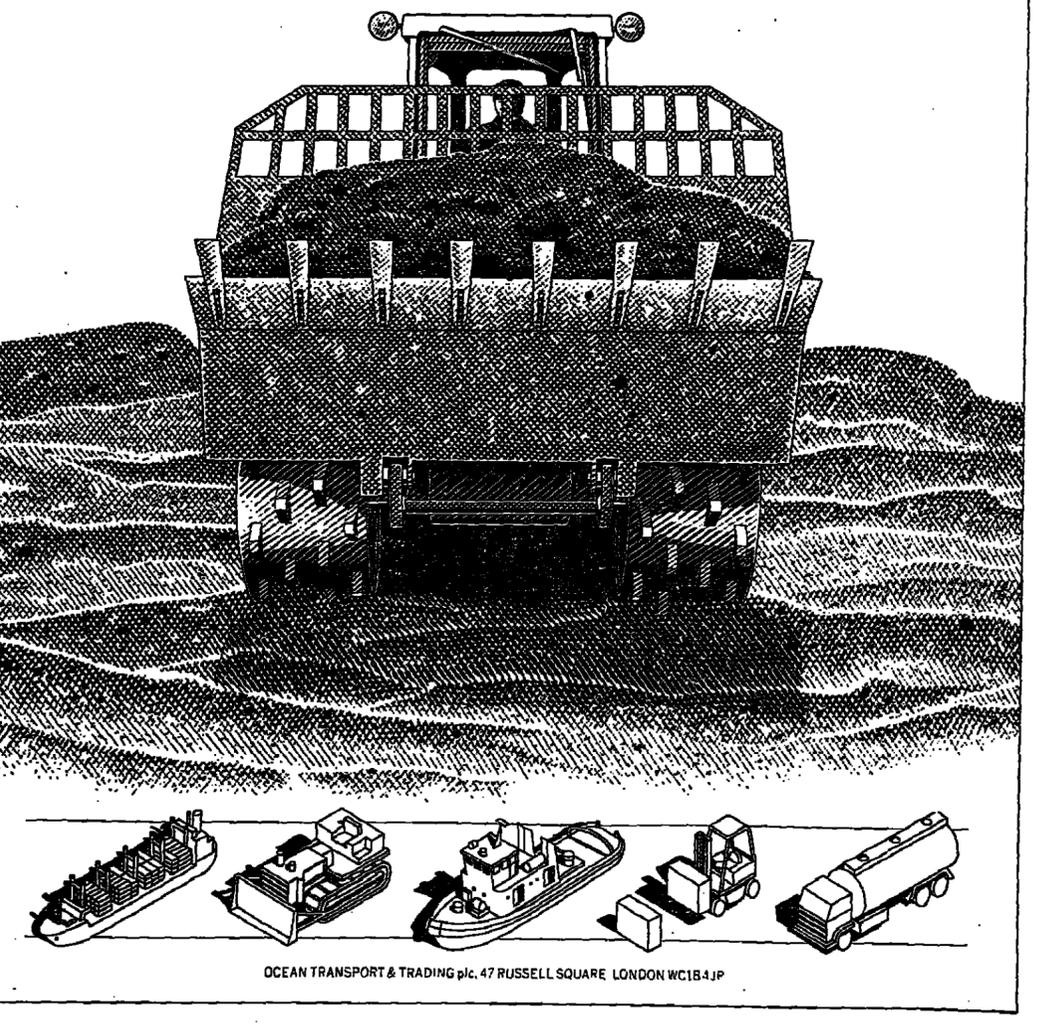
As one of many industrial transportation and distribution services provided by Ocean, Cory Waste Management plays a low-profile but crucial part in meeting the needs of our clients.

Crucial, because there has never been more waste to handle, nor a greater need to protect the environment from its effects.

Low-profile, because we cover our tracks: our landfill sites may end up as golf courses or nature reserves, but they will not be left looking like landfill sites.

In business terms, though, Cory Waste Management's profile is anything but low. By keeping well ahead of today's increasingly tough waste disposal regulations, we're also keeping ahead of the competition. Recently we were awarded a 15 year, £70 million contract to handle over seven million tonnes of London's waste. So far we've invested £11 million in our London operation and we're continuing to invest and expand, developing techniques such as the solidification of chemical waste.

All with the aim of assuring a healthy future for the environment. And for ourselves, of course.



OCEAN TRANSPORT & TRADING plc, 47 RUSSELL SQUARE LONDON WC1B 4JP

Charles Goodhart sees stronger Western growth

Commodity price fall will bring lower interest rates

Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the world economic scene in the years since 1979 has been the persistently high level of interest rates, not only in nominal terms, but in real terms, i.e., deflated by some measure of expected inflation.

It has not been easy to explain this phenomenon, nor the reasons for the low level of real interest rates earlier in the 1970s. However, it has become increasingly clear during the past two decades that the most important policy-induced events have been precisely those changes in monetary policy that led to the switch from a low real-interest regime in the 1970s to a high real-interest regime in the 1980s.

In a world in which the ease and magnitude of capital

Decline in oil prices is likely to continue

flows over exchange markets among countries results in a subordination of national market trends to global developments, it is the impact of world monetary conditions, rather than our own national efforts, which sets the context for the real economy throughout Western developed economies.

During the 1970s, for example, few countries avoided low, or indeed negative, real interest rates in circumstances of high and variable inflation; whereas in the 1980s most countries have faced a combination of very high real interest rates, stubbornly high and rising unemployment but, after an interval, declining inflationary pressures.

A major channel whereby tight monetary policy works is by placing direct deflationary pressure on the flexible market prices of primary commodities. The long-awaited, long-deferred effect of high real interest rates on the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' cartel, indeed on commodity prices more generally, has arrived with a vengeance. This may yet have further to go than is generally appreciated.

The likelihood of Opec arriving at a mutual agreement to cut output sufficiently

to stabilize the price of oil again (at any price) would seem low, although not entirely impossible. Under these circumstances the newly impoverished, high-population members of Opec will have an enormous fiscal and balance-of-payments incentive to continue pumping oil as fast as possible.

In addition, Saudi Arabia and the empty Gulf states have an incentive — to re-establish their strategic position of key control over oil production — to hold oil prices low enough and long enough to knock out a significant proportion of high-cost marginal production in the rest of the world, as at the Alaskan North Slope.

Thus, there seems little reason why the present excess supply should be removed from the market in the short run. Moreover, whenever it is thought that oil prices are heading downwards, it may well be considered advantageous to bring forward oil production, from the future date when the price would be lower to the present.

Under all these circumstances one would expect oil prices to continue falling, until they reach a level where the expectation is that the future increase in the price of oil will give broadly the same return as investing in safe securities.

I suppose that the bottom line on this comes down to the question of what would have to be the price of a barrel of oil, given expectations of short and long-run elasticities of supply and demand, to make the general market expect that on average the future price of oil would appreciate from that level at a rate approximating to the rate of interest available elsewhere.

In particular, given the fiscal and external balance of payments pressure on a number of oil-producing, less-developed countries such as Algeria, Egypt, Indonesia, Mexico and Nigeria, it seems likely to me that the price of oil will have to trade for some period, at least of months, in a range below \$12, to make people reasonably confident that the price of oil will begin (slowly) appreciating once more.

The collapse in oil and commodity prices benefits the Western industrialized com-

munity in several ways. In particular, it will relax the bind in which many countries became stuck recently, involving an unhappy interaction between big fiscal deficits (themselves partly a structural inheritance from earlier, more lavish years, and partly caused by the depression and high unemployment of the 1980s), and the tight monetary policy adopted generally.

This bind was in some large part responsible for the continuing high level of real (long-term) interest rates.

First, the fall in oil and commodity prices directly reduces the rate of inflation and moderates inflationary expectations over the next few years. That of itself will lower world nominal interest rates and thereby reduce the fiscal deficit of all our countries.

There are clouds on the horizon for Britain

Second, with given monetary policies, the fall in commodity prices will encourage an expansion of real output. That will also reduce the fiscal deficit. But the smaller fiscal deficits from these various routes will again diminish fears of future inflation, and thus allow a further reduction in nominal (and real) interest rates, which will further raise output.

The Western countries have switched from a blind, or vicious spiral, as a result of the interaction of money and fiscal policies, to a virtuous spiral. No wonder bond yields have tumbled.

This shift has transformed the outlook for Western industrialized countries. Despite recent poor figures for output growth in Western countries I expect that, for the next couple of years at least, there will be much stronger growth, probably with falling unemployment, than most people have yet realized. The context in which the Western developed countries have now been placed has become much more fortunate.

One question, however, is whether Britain can share fully in this. So far financial markets, especially the exchange market, have responded to the particular impact upon Brit-

ain of the decline in the oil price much more maturely and sensibly than might have been feared.

I was surprised that there was not further downwards pressure on sterling during the period in which oil prices were dropping extremely sharply. As a result Britain has been able to join in the recent rounds of interest rate reductions. I see no reason why these rounds of interest rate reductions should not go somewhat further. Real interest rates in most Western countries remain historically extremely high.

There are also certain possible developments, such as international debt problems, among the oil-producing less-developed countries and bad debt problems more generally among North American banks with a heavy proportion of their assets tied up in loans to energy, agriculture and property (whose value is related to these primary industries), which could bring about circumstances which forced yet further sharp reductions in interest rates, notably in the US.

While this could cause extremely serious problems for those parts of the financial system directly caught up in such debt problems, the consequential fall in interest rates, and rise in general asset prices, would represent a boon for the rest of us.

There are sizeable clouds on the horizon for Britain, however.

Two in particular may be noted; the first is no less than the size of Mr Roy Hattersley's hand, and represents political risk; the second concern relates to Britain's labour market which seem, compared to our competitors, uniquely ineffective in adjusting wage levels to prevent the continuation of severe disequilibria, and thereby foster the unhappy continuation of both high unemployment and faster inflation in unit labour costs in Britain.

The author, chief economic adviser at the Bank of England from 1977-85, recently became the Norman Sosnow Professor of Banking and Finance at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He is a non-executive director of Gerrard & National.

Regional director for NatWest

National Westminster Bank: Mr Christopher Kenyon is now a director of the north regional board.

Derek Crouch (Sales): Mr Graham Barratt has been made a director.

Watney Mann & Truman Brewers: Mr D A Hardie has joined the board as quality and technical director.

BOC Group: Mr Desmond O'Connell will become group managing director, responsible for the gases and health-care businesses, from October 1.

Wades Departmental Stores: Mr Barry Nobel is now the finance director.

Chemical Bank International: Mr Michael Caiger has been named executive director in charge of securities sales and distribution, Mr Alby Cator as executive director, loan syndications, loan sales and Euro-commercial paper and Mr Timothy Lloyd-Hughes, executive director, Japan/Asia desk, London.

Texas Homecare: Mr Eric Salamon has been appointed commercial director, with responsibility primarily for marketing, advertising and public relations.

DHL International (UK): Mr Richard Johnson has been made sales and marketing director.

M J Gleeson (Northern): Mr B J Healy has been appointed managing director in succession to Mr J F G.

APPOINTMENTS



Stefan Zachary

Fabry. Mr J D Kay has been made the director responsible for building operations administered from the Sheffield and Manchester offices.

Simplex Electrical Group: Mr Gerald Bartlett will join the board on August 1. He will succeed Mr P O Carruthers as director and general manager of Simplex power centre division.

BBC Television: Mr Michael Grade will become director of programmes from July 7, when he also joins the BBC board of management. He succeeds Mr Brian Weaham who will become managing director, BBC Radio, also from July 7.

Association of British Insur-



Eric Salamon

ers: Mr Richard Zamboni will serve as deputy chairman from July 1.

Solaglas: Mr Andrew Coles has been made financial director, projects division.

Skytel Computer Systems: Mr Michael Flear becomes joint deputy managing director.

Confederation of British Industry: Mr Tony Webb has been appointed director of education, training and technology.

Manufacturers Hanover Trust: Mr Robert Bethell has become vice president and Mr C Rodney Blair, assistant vice president.

British Sugar: Mr Peter

Jacobs has been made managing director and also joins the main board of S&W Benson, McCormack & Dodge. Mr Dave Jorian has become technical director.

Clarke Hooper: Mr Patrick Leventon has been appointed chief executive of Ovis, the group's design subsidiary. Hill and Knowlton: Mr Richard Cheney has been named chairman-elect.

Allied International Designers: Mr Paul Honeywell has become managing director.

Norgren Maronair: Dr Trevor Lamb has been named chairman and Dr H G Cremer and Mr E Home assistant managing directors. Other appointments to the board are: Mr J W J Derry, finance; Mr N Lee, technical; Mr R S Lewis, operations and Mr J B Matlow, sales and marketing.

and Mr K J Jones, Mr C C Lowy and Mr P Slater become non-executive directors.

Berry Asset Management: Mr James Scoble has been made a non-executive director.

Stewart McColl: Mr Stefan Zachary has been made managing director.

Servotonic: Mr Stephen Bingham has become managing director.

Coats Vycella: Mr Alastair Macdiarmid becomes chairman of the Compton Webb Group division.

COMPANY NEWS

● **EQUITY & GENERAL:** Total dividend 0.9p (same) for 1985. Turnover £22.14 million (£18.28 million). Pretax profit £405,000 (£658,000). Earnings per share 1.07p (1.98p).

● **THOMAS TILLING** (subsidiary of BTR): Turnover for 1985 £1,558 million (£1,533 million). Pretax profit £107 million (£128 million).

● **LOW & BONAR:** Bonar Inc, a subsidiary, has authorized a private placing of 100,000 common shares to an institutional investor and 300,000 common shares to Low & Bonar, at Can\$27.25 (£13) each, to raise Can\$10.9 million (£5.2 million). The proceeds will be used to reduce the debt of Bonar Inc.

● **HUNTING PETROLEUM SERVICES:** Vallance (Morley) has been bought for £325,000. The company, based at Morley, near Leeds, supplies putties and mastics to the building and hardware trades.

● **ASDA-MFL:** The company is to buy Property Sellers — conditional on tax clearances from the Inland Revenue — for £1.5 million, subject to adjustment to reflect future profitability. Property Sellers runs ASDA property shops in some ASDA superstores on a concession basis.

● **REGENT MINING:** The company and Grants Patch Mining have agreed to form a joint venture at the Coliseum gold mine in California. Royal Resources, a US public company, is to provide \$5.75 million (£3.83 million) in return for a 25 per cent stake in the project. Royal can exercise its option on an additional 24 per cent on or before November 15 next by contributing a further \$6.5 million.

● **DUNDEE & LONDON INVESTMENT TRUST:** Six months to April 30, 1986. Interim dividend 2.2p (2p), payable July 25. The board intends to recommend a final of not less than last year's 3.4p. Pretax profit: £570,000 (£555,000). Earnings per share 2.29p (2.14p). Net asset value per share 27.1p (22.7p).

● **IRISH ROPESS:** Half-year to end-March. Pretax profit: £75,000 (£67,700) against a loss of £114,000. Sales £121.62 million (£121.78 million). Interim dividend of 1p (nil). Earnings per share 1.8p (loss 3p).

● **CENTREWAY INDUSTRIES:** Centreway Trucks has sold its Seddon-Atkinson truck dealership, which is based at Chadderton, Greater Manchester, for £185,000 in cash.

This will be used to reduce borrowings.

● **METAL BOX:** The company has launched a \$50 million (£33 million) bond issue, with equity warrants, under the lead management of Baring Brothers. These bonds, which mature on July 15, 1993, will have an annual interest coupon of 5 1/2 per cent and will be issued at 100 per cent. Each bond will be issued with 83 warrants, each of which will entitle the holder to subscribe for one ordinary share at 77 1/2p.

● **MEADOW FARM PRODUCE:** Year to March 28, 1986. Total dividend 3.8p (3.2p, adjusted). Turnover £34.13 million (£18.69 million). Pretax profit £2.57 million (£1.51 million). Meadow Farm plans to raise £1.2 million by a two-for-five rights issue at 20p a share.

It has also agreed to buy North Devon Meat for £1.7 million in cash and will also provide £2.9 million for North Devon to redeem its loan stocks and repay the livestock levy.

● **BELHAVEN BREWERY:** Year to March 31, 1986. Total dividend 0.83p (0.75p). Turnover £13 million (£11.28 million). Pretax profit £1.51 million (£1.35 million). Earnings per share 4.67p (4.55p).

● **GRAINCER TRUST:** Six

months to March 31, 1986. Interim dividend 1.8p (1.5p), payable on July 25. The board expects to recommend a total of not less than 7.8p (6.5p last time). Turnover: £33 million (£24.64 million). Pretax profit £1.06 million (£842,000). Earnings per share 13.5p (10.7p).

● **BRITISH DREDGING:** At an extraordinary meeting, shareholders approved an order for the purchase of a new sand dredger, costing about £3.5 million. The board expects it to enter service with the company's fleet during the second half of 1987.

● **THOMAS LOCKER (HOLDINGS):** Mr B J Pritchard, the chairman, reports in his annual statement that there has definitely been a levelling out in trading conditions, both at home and abroad. However, with the manufacturing improvements the company has made and providing there is no deterioration in demand the board expects improved results.

● **ASSOCIATED BRITISH FOODS:** Mr Garry Weston, the chairman, told the annual meeting that operations during the first 10 weeks of the current year were on target and that profit budgets are aimed at further growth.

Generating energy is not simply providing kilowatts. It must be provided in quantity, safely, efficiently and in an agreeable environment.

The world's need for energy continues to burgeon: and our wish to live in safe, peaceful and unspoiled surroundings remains as strong as ever. Here is how we are working towards achieving these twin goals.

Hitachi's scientists are making tremendous progress in nuclear fusion, often called "harnessing the power of the sun." Nuclear fusion also has been called the ultimate energy source because it is generated by a mechanism similar to that of the sun. One gram of the fuel—hydrogen, deuterium and tritium—generates the same energy as 8 tons (a tank truck-full) of oil.

Recently, Hitachi played a major role in a landmark feasibility experiment conducted by the Japan Atomic Energy Research Institute. The experiment succeeded in producing the first plasma for nuclear fusion—and brings us much closer to having this energy source 'on line' early in the next century.

Since Hitachi's beginnings three-quarters of a century ago, we've become a premier developer of many energy sources. Besides hydroelectric and thermal power plants, we've been in nuclear power more than 30 years.

We are also working on solar energy, coal gasification, and new types of batteries and fuel cells.

We link technology to human needs. We believe that Hitachi's advanced technologies will lead to systems that are highly productive and efficient yet eminently safe and comfortable. Our goal in energy—and communications, transportation and consumer electronics as well—is to build products and systems that will improve the quality of life the world around.

HITACHI



Hitachi's wide-ranging technologies in energy (from left to right) nuclear power reactor, generator motor, laser-test of LPG gas combustion, and nuclear fusion plasma testing device.

AP/100/25

COMMODITIES REVIEW

South African silence on everything golden

At the turn of the decade, when the price of gold was heading towards \$800 an ounce in leaps and bounds, Reuters news agency took the trouble to correct a report it had issued on the rapidly waning health of President Tito of Yugoslavia. A translation error, Reuters reported in all gravity, meant the earlier dispatch had erred in saying that President Tito had managed to get out of bed. The true story was that after many days of almost total incapacity, he had at last been able to sit up in bed.

It is not recorded whether the gold price least dramatically after the Reuters medical bulletin had been set straight. But it neatly encapsulated an era when the merest hint that a key player on the world stage might be about to speak his exit line could provoke a sharp reaction on the bullion markets.

Today, the world is a very different place. The Russians remain in Afghanistan but the American hostages are back home and the oil market has fallen apart. More importantly, a six-year spell of positive real interest rates in most of the Western world has crushed inflation and knocked the stuffing out of gold as a hedge against the falling value of monetary investments.

The result has been that gold - around \$340 an ounce - now reacts to global political developments with all the vigour that an octogenarian can summon up against a bouncer from Michael Holding. Whether it is an Indian or Egyptian head of state being assassinated or President Reagan bringing his "stand tall" policy to bear on the cities of Libya, the gold market has scarcely batted an eyelid.

The story has been repeated in recent weeks as South Africa, the world's largest gold storehouse, has erupted in political unrest of such magnitude that the government has seen fit to impose a state of emergency not seen in the West outside of a world war.

There is little point in wasting energy bemoaning this change in the volatility of gold (unless, of course, you happen to be one of the "apocalypse later" gold bugs hiding out with your stock of bullion bars in a nuclear-proof bunker). The market is meant to be the final arbiter in these matters and it might be worth applauding a drop in the hysteria level which in any case usually attracts charges of vultures preying on the misfortunes of others.

However, the situation in South Africa now is perhaps slightly different and deserves some second thoughts. In a world accustomed to instant communications and a paucity of information sources, the most fundamental difference is that the level of uncertainty about events there is extremely high and increasing by the day. The government's news blackout applies as much to events in and around the gold mines of Transvaal and the Orange Free State as to Soweto, Crossroads and the smoggy black townships of the eastern Cape.

If there was an uprising of black miners which halted production yesterday, say the Kloof or Venterspost mines, we would not know. If a bomb put the President Steyn mine out of commission for three months, we would also be none the wiser. The Pretoria government has promised to maintain the media gag until it feels the spiralling violence that has shaken South Africa for almost two years has been brought under control.

By using its own criteria - and President PW Botha is not prepared to use anybody else's - it would be a fool who put money on a return, to

normality on any particular date soon.

On top of that uncertainty, there is also the possibility that the tentative structure which passes for industrial relations in the South African mines could break down completely. It became apparent last week that Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, the general secretary of the black National Union of Mineworkers, had gone into bidding to avoid joining his many trade union colleagues who have been thrown into detention since the state of emergency was imposed.

Whether he succeeds in evading the security forces, Mr Ramaphosa is effectively out of action as far as his union is concerned at a time when wage talks with the Chamber of Mines are in progress. As usual, the two sides are miles apart. The NUM, which claims almost 250,000 members, is seeking a pay rise of 45 per cent from next week, while the chamber is offering between 12 and 17 per cent.

Even the chamber, a normally-conservative body, has expressed concern at the situation and rightly so. The state of emergency has disrupted the consultation process all along the line, between unions and employers as well as between union leaders and their members.

It is desperately difficult to predict what might happen at the mines should the state of emergency continue to sustain this industrial relations hiatus. It is possible to envisage the black miners, emboldened by the rising level of black unrest elsewhere in South Africa and without an effective leadership to temper their actions, trying to disrupt production.

Whatever transpires, there is a good chance that as far as the international gold markets are concerned, the developments in South Africa will take place in conditions of imperfect information - perhaps the most vital ingredient of price volatility.

Richard Lander

Tranwood dismisses Aitken warning

By Richard Lander

Mr Nick Oppenheim, the financier, yesterday dismissed a warning from Aitken Hume that his £2 billion bid for the financial services group would run into insoluble problems in the United States.

In a letter to shareholders, Mr Tony Constance, Aitken Hume's chief executive, said American financial regula-



Nick Oppenheim: no change of control

tions meant that NSR, Aitken's valuable American subsidiary, would lose its entire financial management business if control changed hands. Appointment of new investment advisers by NSR's independent directors could take four to six months, the letter continued.

Although Mr Oppenheim's company, Tranwood, has made the resolution of NSR's affairs a condition of the bid, Mr Constance said the independent directors would not even consider the bid until it was wholly conditional and the contracts had ended.

"The only offer open to Tranwood is to waive the condition leaving us to risk the loss of NSR's entire business," the letter added.

However, Mr Oppenheim maintained yesterday that the bid would not involve a change of control as Aitken shareholders would own 90 per cent of Tranwood's shares. Even if control were deemed to have changed, he said Tranwood's American lawyers and financial advisers had suggested that the process of appointing investment advisers would take 8-9 weeks at the outside.

Disjunctive 'and' invalidates trust

Attorney General of the Bahamas v Royal Trust Co and Another

Before Lord Keith of Kinkor, Lord Templeman, Lord Griffiths, Lord Oliver of Aylmerton and Lord Goff of Chieveley [Opinion given June 23]

A testamentary gift for the "education and welfare of Bahamian children and young people" did not constitute valid charitable trusts and was therefore void.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council so held in dismissing an appeal by the Attorney General from the judgment of the court of appeal of the Bahamas on October 26, 1983 dismissing his appeal from part of the judgment of Chief Justice Blake on April 30, 1982, in the case of *Attorney General v Royal Trust Co* (No 2), which concerned the will of the testator, the late Mrs. M. J. S. Sidel, who in proceedings brought by the first respondent, the Royal Trust Co against, *inter alia*, the second respondent, Mr. Ernest Raymond Lawson, and the Attorney General, declared that the trusts were void.

Mr George Newman, QC and Mr Jonathan Harvie for the Attorney General; Mr J.M. Chadwick, QC and Miss Lindsey Stewart for the second respondent; the first respondent did not appear and was not represented.

LORD OLIVER said that the question raised in the appeal arose from the provisions of clause 15 of the will of the testator, Mr Albert Edward Worswick, who died in 1953. As

varied by the third codicil, paragraph (1) of clause 15 provided:

"All the rest residue and remainder of my trust estate I direct my trustees to pay over to (the trustees of his trust estate) upon trust to invest the same and in their absolute and uncontrolled discretion to use the income therefrom and any part of the capital thereof for any purposes for and/or connected with the education and welfare of Bahamian children and young people..."

By clause 16 he bequeathed the whole of the remainder of his personal estate to his widow absolutely.

The first respondent was now the sole trustee of the will and had rightly adopted an entirely neutral attitude on the appeal. The second respondent represented the estate of the testator's widow who died in 1968.

The sole question was the true construction of paragraph (1) and it was common ground between the parties that if the trusts declared therein were valid solely for the "welfare" of Bahamian children and young persons they would not, as the authorities stood, be valid charitable trusts.

If the words "education and welfare" were to be construed disjunctively (that is, as embracing two distinct purposes) the appeal failed since the fund would then be capable of being applied in perpetuity to purposes some of which might be non-charitable.

Mr Newman contended on behalf of the Attorney General that, reading the will and the codicils as a whole, the true construction of the paragraph was one which involved reading the word "and" in its conjunctive sense, and so the only purposes for which the trust moneys were authorized to be disbursed by the paragraph were purposes which were not merely for the welfare of Bahamian children and young persons but were also educational.

To put it another way the word "education" limited the word "welfare" and there was only one overall purpose of the trust, that was the purpose of educational welfare.

It was not easy to imagine a purpose connected with the education of a child which was not also a purpose for the child's welfare.

Thus if "welfare" was to be given any separate meaning at all it had to be something different from and wider than mere education, for otherwise the words became otiose.

Mr Newman had submitted that, in the context of the paragraph as a whole, "welfare" was used in the sense of "welfare ancillary to education". But "welfare" was a word of the widest import and when used in connection with a class of "children and young people" it embraced almost anything which would lead to the enhancement of the quality of life of any member of the class. Mr Newman's difficulty then

was to find any context, either in the paragraph itself or in other parts of the will, for subordinating that wide concept to the object of education.

His Lordships were unable to discern any context from which the inference of subordination could be drawn and that difficulty would remain even if the trustees had been directed simply to apply the income for "education and welfare".

The difficulty was, however, compounded by the additional and not unimportant words "for any purposes for and/or connected with" for if Mr Newman were otherwise able to link the word "welfare" with the preceding word "education" in a conjunctive sense, it would then be possible to find a purpose which was not "welfare" (used in that ancillary sense) which was not also "connected with" education, so that the reference to "welfare" would again become otiose.

Their Lordships agreed with the Chief Justice and the Court of Appeal that the phrase "education and welfare" in the will inevitably fell to be construed disjunctively.

It followed that the trusts in paragraph (1) did not constitute valid charitable trusts and that the residuary gift in clause 16. Their Lordships recommended that the appeal should be dismissed. Solicitors: Charles Russell & Co; Stephenson Harwood.

Government officials must attest to notes

Multi Guarantee Co Ltd and Another v Cavalier Insurance Co Ltd

Before Mr Justice Knox [Judgment given June 17]

Officials of the Department of Trade and Industry were required to certify to the discharge of information given to them in confidence by directors of Cavalier Insurance Co Ltd. Mr Justice Knox ruled in the Chancery Division on an application for an order to discharge orders of *subpoena duces tecum* and *subpoena ad testificandum*. His Lordship ordered the witnesses to attend, to produce the documents in question and to give evidence.

His Lordship so ruled on an application by the department, intervening in proceedings in which the plaintiffs, Multi Guarantee Co Ltd and Magnet Marketing Productions Ltd, were claiming damages for breach of contract against Cavalier Insurance Co Ltd, now in liquidation, and certain other defendants including former directors of Cavalier.

Mr John Mummery for the department; Mr John Chadwick, QC and Miss Elizabeth Gloster for the plaintiffs; Mr S. E. Brodie, QC and Miss Barbara Dohmann for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE KNOX said that the notes of the confidential meetings between Cavalier's directors and the officials of the Department of Trade and Industry had, with certain passages blacked out, been disclosed to Cavalier's liquidator by the department. The Cavalier liquidator had disclosed such notes in the course of discovery in the present proceedings, and it was itself common ground that Cavalier itself consented to such disclosure.

A point of law arose which was not covered by the authorities, and in particular *Comptroller of Patents v Comptroller General of Patents* (UK) Ltd v Pine Top Insurance Ltd [1986] 1 Lloyd's Rep 8.

It was accepted that although public interest immunity could not be waived, it was capable of evaporating if the relevant con-

sents of persons involved in the giving and receiving of the information were given to its disclosure. What was in issue was just what consents were needed for the immunity to disappear.

Mr Chadwick contended that consents were needed from persons on whose behalf the information was given; a distinction had to be drawn between the situation where directors were giving information on behalf of a company, when it would be the company and not the directors whose consent was needed, and the situation where the directors were giving information individually to the department in a personal capacity.

Mr Mummery said that the consent of anyone involved was needed, whether they were speaking or were merely present at the meetings in question, and that the department's claim of immunity was not the proprietary right of the person giving or receiving information but the protection of the public administration.

His Lordship preferred Mr Mummery's analysis. But once it was accepted that the immunity was not absolute, one necessarily postulated that the potential wells of information were likely to dry up were there to be no immunity, and the individual grounds on which, exceptionally, the court would decide that the administration of justice should prevail over the other public interest immunity.

If therefore the immunity had, in any particular case, been severely eroded by partial disclosure, that was a matter which could and should be taken into account in the proceedings, and it was itself common ground that Cavalier itself consented to such disclosure.

A point of law arose which was not covered by the authorities, and in particular *Comptroller of Patents v Comptroller General of Patents* (UK) Ltd v Pine Top Insurance Ltd [1986] 1 Lloyd's Rep 8.

It was accepted that although public interest immunity could not be waived, it was capable of evaporating if the relevant con-

ditions were met, the information was released to the Official Receiver in his capacity as liquidator to his disclosure.

His Lordship accepted Mr Chadwick's submission that it was a natural inference that the department had in fact exercised, by blacking out, such consents as were necessary, and that the rest of the material was not considered subject to immunity.

Use by the liquidator would include use in litigation. On balance the claim to immunity was significantly impaired, and in the light of those factors, and on the view which his Lordship had formed, as to the potential relevance of the material, his Lordship concluded that it would be proper for him to look at the notes in question.

The under secretary of state's certificate, as Mr Mummery submitted, played only a limited role. His Lordship accepted that the department's claim was a claim to class immunity, but did not treat the certificate as having any weight beyond establishing the existence of the class and the presence of the documents within it. In particular the court had not to be certain as to account in deciding whether or not to examine the documents.

It was not an adequate reason for rejecting the minister's certificate that it did not contain an accurate or exhaustive statement of the persons whose consents would render the claim to immunity no longer valid.

[His Lordship examined the documents in private, and having directed that the court should go into camera, in order that he might ask further questions, he delivered a further judgment in camera (which he subsequently said should be treated as having been given in open court), as a result of which his Lordship refused to set aside the subpoena, and ordered the Department of Trade and Industry to pay the plaintiffs' costs of and incidental to the department's motion.]

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Coward Chance; Herbert Oppenheimer, Nathan & Vandry.

Acting in execution of office

Regina v Waltham Forest Justices, Ex parte Solanke

Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Purchas and Lord Justice Sackville [Judgment given June 23]

A justice of the peace acting in the execution of his office within the meaning of section 52 of the Justices of the Peace Act 1979 notwithstanding that he was acting in excess of jurisdiction.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing an appeal by the applicant, Mr Lapido Solanke, from Mr Justice Woolf (17 The Times January 12, 1985) who had found in favour of the Waltham Forest Justices that the damages payable to the applicant were limited under section 32 of the 1979 Act to one penny in respect of his commitment to prison for six weeks without jurisdiction but in good faith, for failure to pay maintenance to his former wife for their children.

Mr John Laws for the justices. THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the original High Court maintenance order had never been registered in the magistrates' court.

There had been no jurisdiction to order the applicant to pay arrears or to sentence him to imprisonment in default. He had had a valid complaint. Section 44 applied to acts which were done within his jurisdiction. There was a query whether an action for such acts could be brought at all.

It was important to note the contrast between the words of section 52 "in the execution of his office" and the words of section 44 "in the execution of his duty".

"Office" would cover anything done without jurisdiction or in excess of jurisdiction, so that the words applied to matters in paragraphs (a) and (b) were true. In the circumstances the appeal failed. Lord Justice Purchas and Lord Justice Stocker agreed. Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor.

Broad St plans quotation

Rising domestic demand, supported by falling oil prices, is helping the West German economy to grow after a first-quarter slump.

The Bundesbank, in its economic report for last month, said that the cold winter and the early Easter holidays sent the country's gross national product down by 1 per cent in the first quarter from the fourth quarter of 1985. GNP was still up 1.6 per cent from the first quarter of 1985.

After correcting these distortions, however, the Bundesbank said that GNP at least held the level of 1985's fourth quarter. Early indications for the period after April indicated that the economy was again growing.

Despite the softness of the first quarter, increasing employment levels were a significant sign of growth prospects, the Bundesbank said. The number employed rose by 80,000 from the fourth quarter of 1985, and gained 240,000 from a year earlier.

This showed that companies expected business expansion to continue, although the

German economy resumes growth after downturn

Frankfurt, (AP-Dow Jones) - Rising domestic demand, supported by falling oil prices, is helping the West German economy to grow after a first-quarter slump.

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This showed that companies expected business expansion to continue, although the

employment gains "would not dent the country's unemployment total of about 2.1 million.

The Bundesbank said that economic growth was also carried increasingly by domestic demand for capital and consumer goods. The assertion comes in the wake of increasing pressure on West Germany and Japan to boost domestic demand through interest rate cuts and fiscal measures as a way of reducing large trade surpluses.

The Bundesbank cut its key discount lending rate to 3 1/2 per cent from 4 per cent in March, but it has since avoided loosening monetary grips for fear of accelerating money supply growth, which is already well-above target.

The central bank said: "While the upward move in the area of domestic demand is unmistakable, the German export sector has for some time now lost its role as economic motor."

The decline in oil prices would further support domestic demand but it had also widened the country's trade surplus. Mark import prices for crude oil and oil products

had fallen by 46 per cent from December, 1985 to May, masking a 7 per cent rise in import volume in the same period.

The bank said that, as a result, West Germans spent only about DM19 billion for their net energy imports in the first four months of 1986 or about a third less than a year earlier. The central bank projected that spending on oil and oil product imports for the year would be cut in half in 1986 from 1985's DM80 billion.

This meant that West German private households would spend an estimated DM15 billion less on energy this year, effectively allowing them an extra 1 per cent in spendable income.

The central bank added that, if import and export prices from early 1985 were used as a base, the foreign trade surplus in the first four months of the year would have shrunk by DM6 billion from a year earlier. At current prices, however, the trade surplus reportedly rose by DM13 billion to DM32 billion in the four months to May from a year earlier.

James Cropper PLC advertisement including financial statements for 1986 and 1985, turnover, profit, and tax data.

BASE LENDING RATES advertisement listing various banks and their rates, including ABN, Aitken & Company, BCCI, etc.

Total Package advertisement for Budget Software, featuring a 'BU BY BU Budget' logo and contact information.

Admitting similar fact evidence

Regina v Butler

Before Lord Justice Gildewell, Mr Justice Jupp and Sir Ralph Kilner Brown

[Reasons given June 20]

Whereas the particular facts alleged by the prosecution in relation to charges of indecent assault and rape bore a striking similarity to previous sexual behaviour which had taken place between the defendant and a former girlfriend, albeit with her consent, the girlfriend's evidence as to that behaviour was admissible under the "similar facts" principle as having positive probative value.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) dismissed an appeal by the defendant, Dennis Butler, who was convicted upon two counts each of rape and indecent assault on October 28, 1983 at Oxford Crown Court, before Judge Leo Clark, QC and a jury, and sentenced to a total of eight years' imprisonment.

Mr J. C. Willis, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the defendant; Mr C. J. M. Tyrer for the Crown.

SIR RALPH KILNER BROWN, delivering the reserved reasons of the court for dismissing the appeal on June 13, said that at about 10.30 pm on November 18, 1982, Miss Butler was waiting at a bus stop in Oxford when a man said to be the defendant drew up in his car and asked her way to a lift home.

In an identical attack to that on Miss W, he forced her to felicitate him by putting his hand on the back of her neck and telling her he had a knife and would use it.

but Miss C recognized him, somewhat doubtfully, by his appearance, but she definitely stated that she had been forced into the car because she had been scared that she would not be believed and would be criticized for accepting a lift from a stranger.

On forensic medical examination seminal stains which contained no spermatozoa were found on vaginal swabs taken from Miss W and on her clothes. Transferred to the defendant's spermatozoa indicated that the man concerned either had a disease or had undergone a vasectomy. The defendant had undergone such an operation several years earlier.

Tyre impressions matching the tyres of the defendant's car were found at the place where Miss W said the offence had occurred.

When the defendant's car was searched several months later in March 1983 by the scientific officer the missing car-rings were found. The defendant was not arrested until February 1983 as a result of the complaint made by the second victim.

In February 1983, Miss C, then aged 19, was waiting at a bus stop in Oxford when a man, again said to be the defendant, pulled up in his car and asked her for directions and she agreed to show him the way in return for a lift home.

In an identical attack to that on Miss W, he forced her to felicitate him by putting his hand on the back of her neck and telling her he had a knife and would use it.

He also performed other indecent acts on her and then stopped the car a little further on and raped her. After it was all over he drove off in the direction of her home and dropped her off.

defence of accident or of innocent conduct.

The defendant's case the judge set out eight particular features in the evidence of Mrs U which the prosecution submitted showed a striking similarity to the offences with which the defendant was charged.

The judge rightly took the view that they were not only strikingly similar, but in their weight were very substantial indeed.

The defence submitted that because the acts performed with Mrs U were done with consent they were not strikingly similar to the same sort of acts which were done under compulsion. That argument was misconceived and the court rejected it.

Mrs U knew the defendant very well and there was no issue of identification so far as she was concerned. The defendant was also identified by Miss C. There was the finding of Miss W's car-rings in the defendant's car.

There was no question of there being no link or of weak links in identification between the witness giving evidence of similar facts and the persons making the allegations of sexual assaults. The judge exercised his discretion carefully and properly.

Indeed when it came to the exercise of discretion, if the similar facts relied on did not constitute the commission of other offences there was likely to be less prejudicial effect than if they did.

The judge's ruling was in every respect entirely correct and there was no misdirection by the judge to the jury sufficient to raise any doubts whatsoever as to the correctness of the verdicts.

Solicitor: Mr P. D. F. Higginbottom, Rochdale (formerly of Reading).

A rush to automate before the Big Bang

Even those traditionalists who have never laid hands on a computer and probably never wish to, have come to accept that today technology is an integral part of financial operations and a key determining factor in the direction of growth.

Whether a bank uses technology as a means of gaining a competitive edge, or as part of a defensive strategy to avoid losing market share, the role of automation in all facets of the financial services industry is crucial in breaking down boundaries between established sectors of the industry — banking, broking, building societies and insurance.

Equally important to a financial institution is its image in the public's eye — being seen as a market leader will help to attract customers and technology has become something of a vote-catcher here. In the recent study by the consultants Arthur Andersen, 97 per cent of the 600 financial respondents believed that technology would be important in maintaining or increasing competitive advantage, and 98 per cent believed that technology leadership would help a bank's image and be an advantage in attracting new customers.

But not everyone is ready to drive the technological frontiers forward. For some, the decision to install computer systems is largely defensive and nowhere is there a better example of this than in the City where the pressure of time before Big Bang on October 27 is creating a rush for automation that is unlikely to leave everyone satisfied.

The race is being driven by a handful of large, technologically advanced firms, including some of the major US houses who bring with them 10 years' valuable experience of deregulated trading from

Wall Street. These firms have automated their operations from the dealer's desk through to the back office administration and it is they who will determine what shape the market takes after Big Bang.

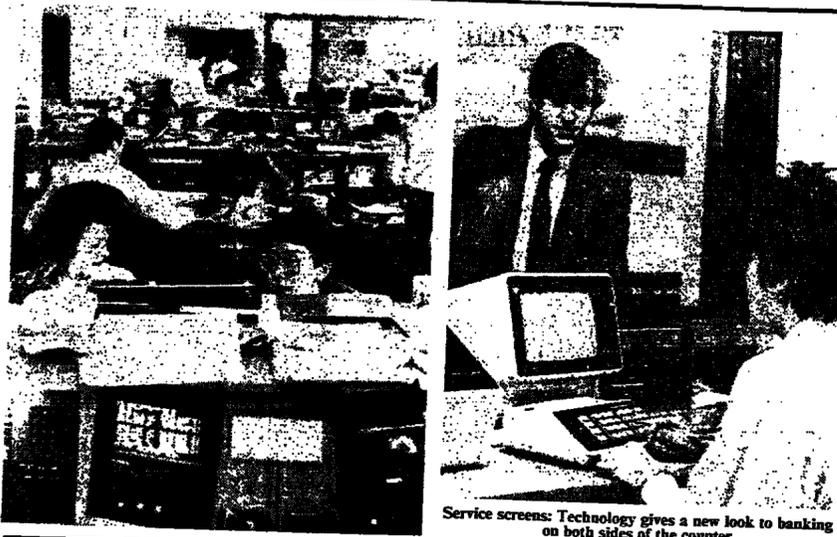
But even the most sophisticated of these firms would admit that solutions put into place today are likely to need replacing soon. "Until we know what our trading requirements are going to be we won't know what systems we will ultimately need," says one broker.

It is a sentiment repeated by many of the smaller firms where the level of investment needed to install full-scale automation is unlikely to be justified by the volume of business after deregulation. As the distinctions between the traditional functions — banks, brokers, building societies, and so on — disappear, the need to carve a niche in the market is greater than ever.

This is no less true in the retail sector where competition is increasing between banks and other financial institutions. Once the Government's Building Societies Bill has passed through Parliament, the distinctions will fade even further.

The Bill will give increased powers to the societies to offer retail banking services to their customers, a position for which they are lining themselves up smartly. Although the big clearing banks dominate the retail banking market in terms of customers and services, the building societies are setting up national networks of automated teller machines (ATMs), automating their branches and even moving into areas such as electronic funds transfer at the point of sale (EFTPOS) and home banking before the clearing banks.

The need to automate was



Service screens: Technology gives a new look to banking on both sides of the counter

highlighted recently by the general manager of NatWest's Management Services, Bert Morris, who told a management conference: "We already process every working day three and a quarter million debits and credits and handle almost three quarters of a million account enquiries, and last year we issued 116 million statements and generated 150 million standing orders and direct debits. The only way to handle this volume of business without disappearing under an avalanche of paper was to introduce automation to our basic services."

Automation of the bank branch is an integral part of any bank's (or building society) strategy for fighting off competition and increasing market share. However, whereas the process of automation in the past was on a piecemeal basis, now the emphasis is on integration of operations.

Not only are all the functions of a branch linked to a central branch controller, but each branch is linked to others and to the head office. This means that any transaction can be updated within minutes, account balances are therefore easily maintained, records corrected, the necessity for paperwork cut down and likewise costs.

There are a number of systems on the market which provide these facilities, among

them the Burroughs Financial Systems Architecture and the ISC Pinnacle Personal Banker system. This allows a single member of staff to look after a group of accounts and to market the bank's services to the customers directly. The system is based on individual banker workstations with their own intelligence and disc storage connected to a branch processor.

One bank which has already invested in a totally integrated branch system is the Trustee Savings Bank, which has at the

heart of its technology an Online Realtime system (OLRT).

The significance of this for the customer is that when a transaction is made, such as a deposit or withdrawal, or when a standing order is paid automatically, the whole system is made aware of the transaction and all files brought up to date at once. This happens both centrally and at the customer's branch.

The TSB is also introducing new automated teller machines which enable customers to pay bills and transfer money between accounts. Customer Operated Terminals (COT) being developed now use interactive video to

relating to that account, and offering a personal solution. It therefore can release staff to perform more complicated advisory or marketing services.

Technology is reshaping the branch lobby, replacing the long counters with small tables and chairs in open spaces and handing over many of the more mundane functions to automated teller machines. Since the most frequently required services are cash withdrawals, deposits and balance enquiries and these can all be dealt with by an ATM, banks are now able to rationalize their branch networks.

Bricks and mortar are expensive and many financial institutions are considering alternatives, such as stand-alone ATMs, sited in booths, railway stations, supermarkets or places of work.

One service which is being considered by all the major banks now is EFTPOS. This is a means of payment for goods or services without involving cash. It can operate on a credit or debit basis, although the original concept was for an immediate debiting of the account at the point of sale.

The customer has a plastic card with a personal identification number and other relevant details, such as credit limits, stored on the card either on a magnetic stripe or in a microchip. The card is read by a terminal in the shop, with the amount of the purchase keyed in. The customer's account is then either debited straight away, or if one of the credit cards is being used, the customer will be charged in the usual manner.

Whichever way, no cash changes hands in the shop, thus cutting down vastly on handling costs, paperwork and increasing security for both the shop keeper and the bank.

A number of EFTPOS schemes are under way in the UK, all on a limited scale, while the reaction of retailers and customers are gauged. A national scheme is being prepared involving the clearing banks, retailers and the credit card companies. The Clydes-

dale Bank has been running a scheme in Aberdeen for more than two years and the Anglia Building Society has a scheme running in Northampton.

National Westminster is operating a nationwide system at petrol stations. Barclaycard has recently launched its own system, which will eventually accept all the major credit cards, and the Midland Bank has a scheme using both credit and debit cards.

Financial institutions have so far turned their back firmly on the smart card, or microchip card, which is the core of all the French EFTPOS schemes. The main reason for this is that a large card base exists already in the UK using magnetic stripe technology and it would be too expensive to replace this with the smart card.

The fact that the banks intend to integrate existing technology into future services such as EFTPOS shows that it is regarded very much as part of a broader retail systems strategy and not an isolated service. The main benefits to be derived from EFTPOS, according to management consultants Butler Cox, who recently carried out a survey of retailers' reactions to EFTPOS, are cutting costs and the risks of cash handling.

For the corporate customer, automation of services such as transfer of funds, balance reporting, international communications and, perhaps most important, the speedy delivery of information has become essential in order to compete in the international marketplace. It has also had the effect of subtly changing the balance of the relationship between the treasurer and the bank.

Electronic cash management systems allow the treasurer to not only view his balances whenever he pleases, on his desk top terminal, but also to shift funds between accounts so that they earn the greatest level of interest and ensure that money enters and leaves his accounts to his best advantage.

Since this also cuts the bank's traditional float, banks are now having to reappraise their pricing strategies for corporate services.

Whichever sector of the market the banks decide to aim for, the application of technology in marketing and providing services is crucial in determining their success.

Elizabeth Sowton
Editor, Bank Technology Magazine

Hi-tech tellers are here to stay

When the first automated teller machines (ATMs) were introduced about 20 years ago, public reaction was cool. Few people were familiar with technology and the machines were often unreliable.

Today, as the networks of ATMs grow and are supplied not just by the banks, but by building societies and other institutions as well, public acceptance is high. Lunchtime will usually find a snake of customers queuing outside the bank cashiers sit at empty counters.

The UK sits just behind France in the number of ATMs installed (6,886 at the beginning of 1985, according to the Battelle Institute) with Lloyds Bank enjoying the highest level of transactions (71.7 million in 1984). The clearing banks established their networks independently, but recently have turned to sharing arrangements. NatWest and the Midland can use each other's machines, while Barclays and Lloyds are still negotiating.

The advantages of sharing have been recognized early on by the building societies which are still developing their networks and have designed them from the start to provide reciprocal facilities to each other's customers.

There are three ATM networks apart from the clearing banks; the Halifax building society's own, and two consortium-led shared networks.

Link, which switched on with a National Girobank ATM in April, comprises the National Girobank, the Abbey National and Nationwide building societies, the Co-operative Bank and an organization of smaller members called Funds Transfer Sharing. It aims to have more than 850 ATMs by the end of the year, serving 4 million customers.

The other share network is Matrix which has seven of the top 11 building societies as its founder members. Between them they have already installed more than 250 ATMs

Continued on next page

Better deals on local network

Personal computing penetrated banking even faster than it conquered the rest of the world, thanks mainly to the spreadsheet package. PCs running spreadsheets or word processing are still *de rigueur* for banks cultivating a go-ahead image. But like the rest of the world banks are recognizing the logistical advantages of gathering their PCs into local area networks (LANs).

Networking is still relatively new to all industries, however, so the value of LANs is as yet unproven, with technology keeping well ahead of experience.

Dealing room systems are prime candidates for networking because they fulfill all the criteria of an ideal LAN — a group of people working independently but sharing resources and information, and needing to communicate with each other and with outside sources.

Some of the systems on the market are highly advanced, such as the Dealer's Choice package from International Banking Systems, which incorporates artificial intelligence to filter information relevant only to particular individuals. Morgan Grenfell is installing the £500,000 system, keen to taste the first fruits of "expert" banking systems.

IBJ International, the UK wholly-owned subsidiary of the Industrial Bank of Japan, has had more chance to assess the equally innovative dealing room system it installed last year and has discovered at first hand the benefits and drawbacks of a LAN.

Computerization of IBJ In-

ternational started five years ago, with a Nixdorf 8870 minicomputer running a full range of banking systems, including Eurobond dealing in which the capital markets division specializes. Although this system had online entry, updating was not done in real time, and dealing tickets were all input at the end of the day, between 4 and 5pm. The bank felt that dealers and salesmen were not being fully supported and that settlements were being delayed.

"We decided to update the system in August 1984 and installed a LAN primarily as a simple way of sharing printers and hard discs", said Jeremy Rees, chief accountant and a director of IBJ International.

The bank now has a total of 85 IBM PC XTs and ATs, many of which are linked to each other and to a Stratus/32 XA600 fault-tolerant computer by a Torus Icon network, some systems are highly advanced based on Ethernet standards. PCs are distributed among 130 staff but, Mr Rees says, the bank is "moving towards one per desk".

The dealing room system, which has 37 PC/XTs, has an unusual alternative to the keyboard — Summagraphics digitizer tablets encoded with details of bonds, clients, Lotus 1-2-3 file names, and routines to call up online information services such as Reuters and Teletext.

Dealers have three screens with a choice of six facilities, including standard PC applications programs, and switch



Key control: Nixdorf 8864 at a Midland branch

between them by touching a square on the digitizer with a magnetic stylus.

Mr Rees designed the system in conjunction with Holland Automation International (UK) who had supplied the original NIBSOL Integrated Banking software to run on the Nixdorf mini.

The result was the Eurobonds Dealing Room system, with cross-transfer of accounts between Stratus and Nixdorf machines.

"We started with a completely blank piece of paper and no preconceived ideas, although there were a number of points we wanted to achieve", said Mr Rees. "The main priority was to provide tools for the dealers, for example, to analyse different bonds' performance and yields, keep track of and analyse clients' wishes, and produce switches and swaps trading positions."

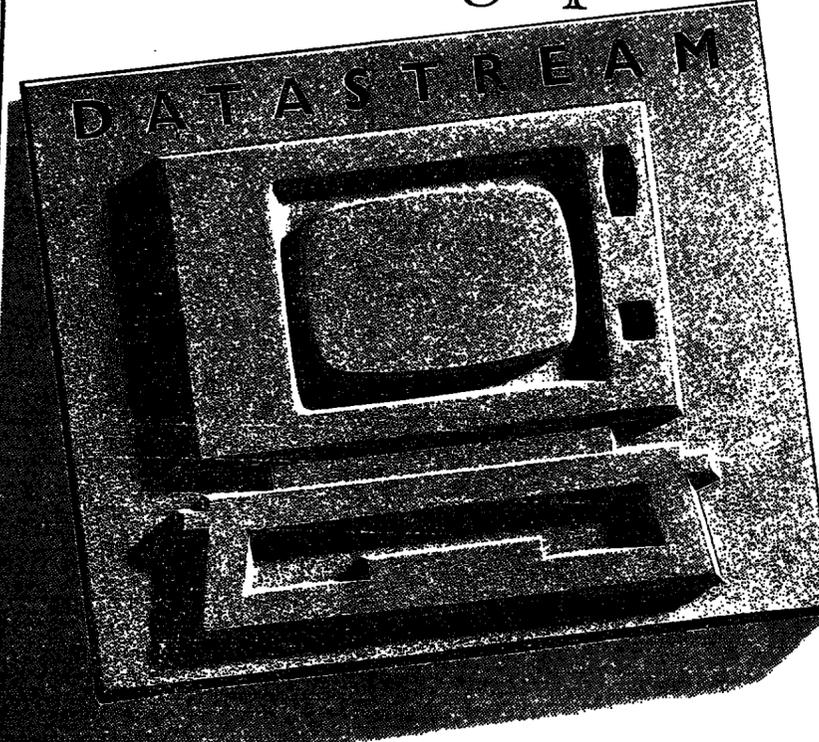
"We also wanted to speed up transactions and facilitate communications among dealers so that any interested party could look at the information instead of having to be told personally."

Personal computing was an important consideration because dealers were accustomed to using the Lotus 1-2-3 package to produce yield spreadsheets and analyses or price lists and Multimate word processing. These options were built into the Torus network's user interface, appearing with PC-DOS functions as icons on the screen.

By mid-December 1985, Holland Automation had installed the system and the first symptoms of a major performance problem started to appear. Although the system speeded up the processing of transactions, by updating accounting records and dealers' positions as soon as dealing tickets were accepted, terminal response time was very poor.

Dealers might have to wait up to 30 seconds for a response or have to ring up

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Maggie McLening

A tight watch on your account

Technically it is possible for a bank branch to dial direct to the head office mainframe computer to obtain information. This can give a better service for customers.

Most banks will now provide information at the tellers window, but this will be the balance as of last night when the batch processing run was done. Although the information can be retrieved from the bank's mainframe computer there are problems of access and confidentiality which must be solved before "anyone" can be given access to the system.

Tandem Computers is one of the leading bank suppliers and, according to its spokesman Peter Robinson "Security can be split into two parts, internal and external, information leaving the files and people accessing the files. For users accessing the files there is a multi-layer password system which starts with access to the system, then to the specific file. Access to any file can be for a variety of reasons. To view, update or change the information. The entry levels are different in each case. There must also be a record - audit trail - of the users accessing files even if they have been permitted by the system."

For information moving from the system to another computer there is the problem of hackers who may be able to intercept the data.

All information leaving the Tandem system is encrypted - coded so that it looks like gobbledygook - to protect the data from unauthorized access.

Harold Stokes of APACS - the Association for Payment Clearance Services set up by

the clearing banks - is involved in this area and believes that security is far more important than the technology.

As banks interchange information between themselves there must be published techniques of information change of information possible. Equally there must be audit trails to check who has accessed the computer and for what reason.

Any system of on-line processing must, says Mr Stokes: "Fit into the banking timetable where everything has a place." There has been direct connection to the banks for the BACS - Bankers Automated Clearing Service - which provides an automated service for banks and their corporate customers for the transmission of money between accounts within the UK banking system. BACS has been operating for 15 years and is operated by the major clearers.

The banks have pressures from the public, the major finance houses and the building societies to improve their services or lose business.

There is a new class of non-bank user who does not need an account because they deal with a building society, have a mortgage, a cheque account and interest on their current account.

Apart from the competitive situation the on-line system would enable the banks to charge for every service and make their operation more profitable. But to do so would mean a multi-million pound investment. The technology is here, but will the banks achieve the financial return to make it worthwhile?

Neville Ian Ash

Costs hold up the armchair service

Like old age home banking is inevitable but nobody wants to get there first, or that appears to be the view of most banks and building societies. Although the Homelink scheme was pioneered by the Nottingham Building Society and the Bank of Scotland more than three years ago, rivals have not yet followed suit.

Most are experimenting with pilot schemes that allow customers to manage their money online using viewdata terminals, but few can see any commercial advantage in launching a service before the demand has been established. Setting up costs are the main deterrent for the larger banks and building societies; not only in providing or subsidizing customers' access equipment but also in presenting their main - usually large - customer databases for online access by account holders. Organizations with an established national branch network also see no point in duplicating activities.

But to the Nottingham Building Society, operating within an 80-mile area, electronic services were the most viable alternative to opening branches for nationwide expansion. "It was not a question of having the money to open new branches - this traditional way of growth was closed for us because the whole expansion strategy has changed", said Tom Littlefair, assistant general manager at the Nottingham.

"It is arguable whether there are too many building society branches in the high street where everybody is offering similar products. Planners won't allow service-type industries into new areas. They want butchers or flower shops instead. Statistics for other societies show that branch expansion has slowed down almost to a stop.

"We didn't really cost justify the exercise, although if we had set up a branch network all over the country it would have cost us 20 times what it has cost to set up Homelink," he said.

Homelink was launched in November 1982, offering anyone investing £1,000 or more in the Nottingham online money management and teleshopping via Prestel, plus a Bank of Scotland Visa card. Since the launch the emphasis on teleshopping has gone (poached by Prestel) and the Bank of Scotland introduced an independent Home Banking Service in January 1985, extending it to office banking last February.

Customers dial into Prestel using an adaptor to connect their television sets to the main Prestel computers, then go through a gateway to reach either Homelink or HOBS.

Obviously a banking service could not function without local facilities for paying in cheques and drawing cash, so the Bank of Scotland has a reciprocal arrangement with Barclays Bank for use of cash dispensers and Homelink with Barclays and Thomas Cook offices.

The arrival of further home banking services might sound the death of the branch as we know it, says David Bayliss, manager of electronic banking development at Midland Bank. "The nature of branches may well change. In the long term there will be greater emphasis on self service of all kinds and we will certainly see unmanned branches. But you cannot ignore the fact that the branch network is a very important sales force", he said.

Midland Bank has been running a trial service for more than two years. The trial system has only 1,500 customers on its database, but eventually the



Fingertip dealing: The touch-sensitive system from International Banking Systems

Midland may face supporting all of its 4.5 million customers online.

Analysis of Homelink usage shows that customers do take full advantage of a 24-hour service. During the day traffic is light but consistent, building up at 6 pm when Prestel calls become free. Peak time is at weekends and between 7.30pm to 10pm during the week, dying away by 2am. But there are still a few insomniacs dabbling with their accounts throughout the night, according to Mr Littlefair.

Barclays has had a small, remote banking experiment running for about 18 months, involving members of staff. The success of this venture prompted the bank to widen the experiment to 40 small business customers nationwide in January this year. Both projects are hosted on Prestel.

"Home banking is clearly part of our plans because all banks are moving into the 24-

hour arena and we are now going through a period of positioning for the 1990s," said Mr Bayliss.

NatWest admits that it, too, is investigating home banking, but Lloyds Bank believes that "start-up costs for the consumer outweigh the

The nature of branches may well change

advantages", said a spokeswoman. But Lloyds can see the potential for small businesses.

Another dissenter on the home front is the Bradford & Bingley Building Society. "We have no plans to introduce home banking. We don't think it's appropriate because we don't believe it is a service our members want", said the society, a view endorsed by the research and statistics manager, Liz Boyes-Watson. "There

has been no research into home banking - with only 1,500,000 investors it would be far too expensive. We wouldn't even consider it and I find it hard to understand how a small society such as the Nottingham can justify it," she said.

Abbey National is also cautious about launching a public service, although it has been developing a viewdata system in-house for the past three years. As Abbey National's transaction account manager, John Smith, points out: "One of the main indicators of how successful it would be is that only about 65,000 out of several million television sets have Prestel, and more than 50 per cent have it for business use."

Nevertheless, he promises that "when the time comes, we'll be there" and Abbey National is already giving young savers a taste of the future.

Schoolchildren in the Soli-

hull area are participating in a School Banking project set up by Viewtel Services on the society's behalf. Based on Prestel, the service offers each child a building society account for saving up for school trips and outings, and has been running for a year with limited success.

"The biggest problem has been the teachers' dispute. Children are very excited about the scheme but teachers have been refusing to operate it", said Peter Young, director of Viewtel Services, a company set up by the Birmingham Post and Mail in 1980 to provide electronic services to the public.

Mr Young believes that home banking needs to be packaged with other services and access hardware to stand a good chance of success. "The biggest hold-up is terminal equipment. I would like to see someone like British Telecom provide everyone with a terminal, like the French. If BT doesn't, then other commercial organizations who would gain some advantage, such as the mail order companies, will probably provide them over the next 12-18 months", he said.

Ian Graham, manager of Automated Customer Services at the Bank of Scotland, is awaiting the opposition with interest, and more than a little confidence. "If you're going to be second into the market your product has to be at least as good as the first. We'll have to wait and see what they have to offer but I'm quite confident that HOBS will be difficult to beat", he said.

If the other building societies and banks continue with their current "toe in the water" approach it could be some time before he is proved either right or wrong.

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Countdown to October

Deregulation of dealings in the City of London take effect from October 27, 1986 and the interim provides an opportunity for computer companies to make sales and time for banks to gear themselves up for the Big Bang.

Roger Hunt, of PA Management Consultants, says: "Big Bang really means three things: Deregulation; competition; and globalization with 24-hour trading activities." Banks are forming conglomerates which include estate agents, dealers and almost every type of financial service.

"The banks have the choice to buy an off-the-shelf system or create one just for that specific operation. Some banks are installing

Millions of pounds are being invested in systems

forms of expert system to help their dealers. Information can be presented to dealers in a certain sequence and can be manipulated to save time. Pages from information systems can be selected and time is of the essence," says Mr Hunt.

Several hundred million pounds is being invested in systems for the Big Bang and Mr Hunt believes 10 per cent will be spent on the competitive edge and 90 per cent on the standard system.

The requirements for any banking system to work with the Big Bang are:

- Flexibility - to be able to deal with rapid expansion without changing the complete system or going beyond its capabilities.
- Fault tolerance - having redundant circuits so that any fault is covered by a duplicate circuit.
- Powerful networking - to allow transparent operation between London, New York and Tokyo.
- Ability to link - with other manufacturers equipment and information services. This means gateways that give access to non-compatible computer systems.
- Ability to expand - dramatically without replacing all the equipment. Expanding by linking two or more systems together.

Several manufacturers have some of these requirements but few can cope with all of them. The main suppliers for the Big Bang include IBM, Tandem, ICL, ITL, DEC, Nixdorf, Wang and Stratus.

One of the problems facing banks implementing facilities for the Big Bang is the lack of practical working knowledge. While banks may have pilot studies, they will not be the same as real life applications. Before the Big

Bang, the London Stock Exchange's own in-house information system, Topic, has been down for 10 minutes and there have been faults in the options market computers. While this is serious before Big Bang it will be crucial once the system is totally electronic.

Information systems are gearing up to meet this new demand. Reuters has started a new system called ART - Advanced Reuters Terminal. This enables users to see up-to-five different Reuters systems at the same time. The system uses Microsoft Windows and an ART has the power-to-10 conventional Reuters terminals. Midland Bank has installed a system using Microsoft Windows, called SuperDORIS providing up-to-the-minute foreign currency information.

A combination of an American company and a Swiss corporation have introduced a dealing system which is claimed to be the first to offer calculations, external information and deal capturing facilities in a single unit, called Dealers Choice. It has already been sold to Morgan Grenfell and is based on the IBM PC-AT.

Clive Pedder, City manager for Tandem Computers believes, "The practical gain will be in research and advice, making the right information available to dealers. It is a decision support situation."

ITL is working with NMW Computers of Nantwich and Timon to produce complete packages of computers and programs for the Big Bang.

Midland Bank has installed an Artemis project management program purely to handle the multi-million pound replacement of the bank's retail computing systems.

Even the Stock Exchange believes that although the companies have geared up for the

The Big Bang will have a polarizing effect

Big Bang they will be faced with four major problems: The equipment will be expected to work first time - which is unlikely; there will be technical problems; the pilot studies that have been done are too short; and many companies will be working from the backs of envelopes on October 27.

Mr Hunt says: "The Big Bang will have a polarizing effect. There will be 10 to 12 major financial conglomerates offering the full range of facilities, with a number of small niche providers. But there won't be anything in between."

NIA

Hi-tech tellers

One challenge which the banks are facing from the integration of automated teller machines into basic banking functions is how to use staff no longer needed to perform counter transactions.

The obvious answer is to retrain them to sell other services, to advise customers, to act in a marketing role, and increase business for the bank. Although we are still some way off from this scenario, it is an important consideration for the banks, which cannot afford to both install expensive technology and maintain a high number of human cashiers.

The resources of existing staff are needed to promote services such as mortgages, insurance, personal loans and recently, the move into selling shares through bank branches. It will require a concerted effort by the banks to train staff to meet these needs. Without them they stand to lose to competitors.

However, they have a fine line to draw between automating basic banking facilities in the name of efficiency and economy and risking alienating their customers; the human face still holds a great attraction.

ES

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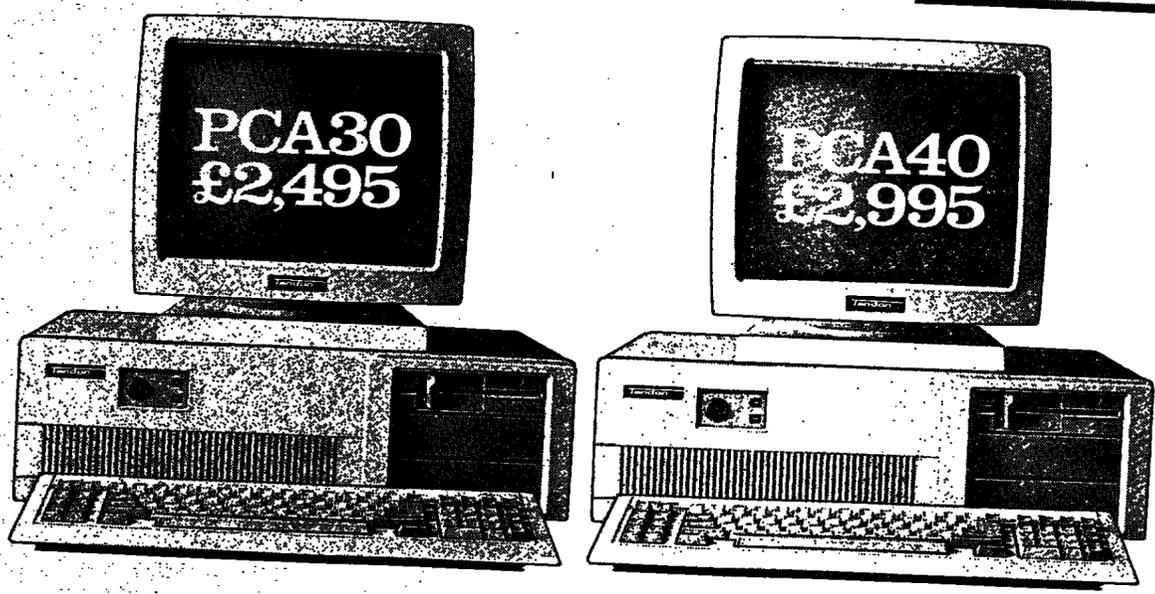
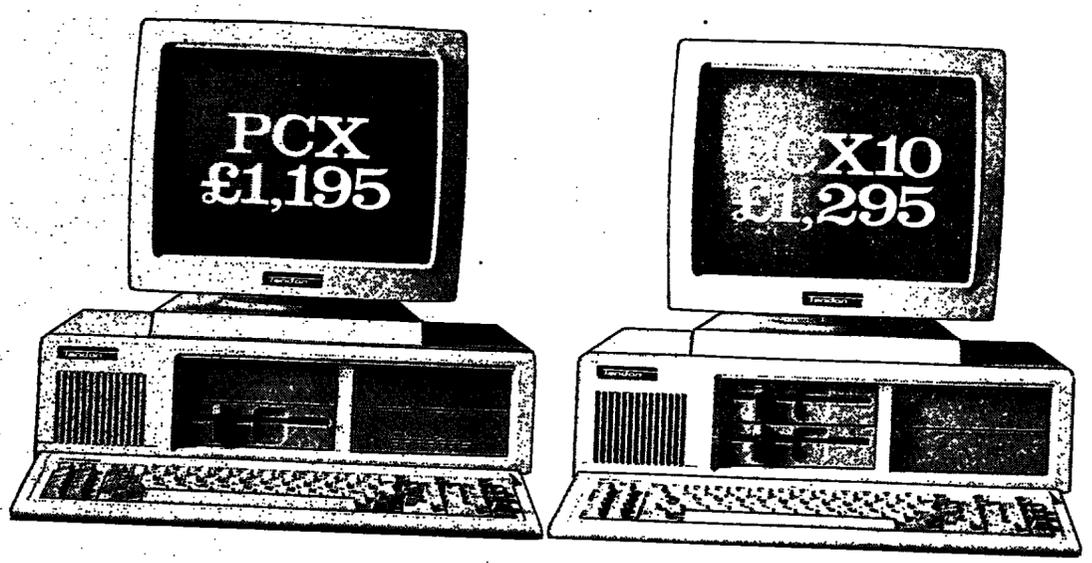
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to October

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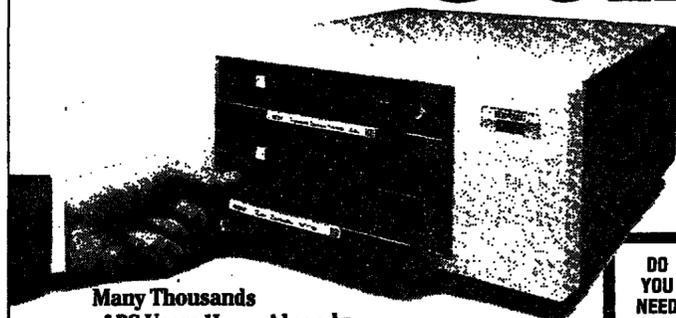
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Low cost expansion?	✓	✓	✓			✓
Unrestricted PC storage capacity that grows to meet new users?	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Protection from sudden loss of data or accident?	✓	✓	✓			
Quick, on-line response to commands or requests for data?	✓	✓		✓	✓	
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The transportability of backup—in a light-weight format?	✓	✓				
Very high on-line capacity?		✓		✓		

...as well as prominent financial and banking institutions. The companies with the most sophisticated data processing needs were the first to recognize the benefits of the Bernoulli Box. But regardless of whether the customers were large or small... A full 97% of them not only purchased Bernoulli subsystems, but are ready to recommend Bernoulli technology to others.

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Edited by Matthew May

COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

Why the micro will never extinguish ink

By Richard Platt

A current craze among computer pundits is to predict the demise of the printed word. Soon, they tell us, our daily papers will be beamed down by telephone line, satellite dish and optical fibre and we will browse at leisure on the screen of a home computer. No more inky fingers and wave goodbye to the paperboy.

Letters will go the same way, as snail mail is replaced by its electronic counterpart. The postman joins the paperboy in the dotage queue. Books and encyclopaedias will get the treatment, too, we're told. Away with the dusty tomes in gold-embossed binding. In future we'll just type in the subject that interests us and, after a brief buzz from a computer version of the compact disc, a list of relevant entries appears on screen.

But how realistic is this dream of electronic information and correspondence? How soon will we begin to burn our libraries?

Rest assured, in all probability it will never happen. Such glowing predictions of an electronic future overlook several fundamental considerations about the virtues of ink on paper, and about the way

we compile, absorb and collect information. Consider, first the sheer practical problems of reading a newspaper on the screen of one of today's micros. An average page of The Times has on it about 160 column inches of text, headings and advertising copy. If this was displayed in exact facsimile on a conventional computer terminal, it would occupy about 27 screens.

Browsing through the whole newspaper would mean pressing the key to display the next screen about 1,000 times. The Sunday Times would need several thousand screens. Of course this is a simplistic argument, because we don't read all pages in equal detail.

Most of us simply turn quickly to the topics that interest us most and then scan the other pages briefly. Certainly an electronic index could rapidly bring the racing results or stock market closing prices into view in nanoseconds, but this would not please the advertisers who rely on catching the eye of the browsing reader.

There are other more subtle problems concerned with the creation and absorption of text on screen. Books, magazines and newspapers can be



cross-referenced easily - it's possible to turn quickly from one page to another and slip in scraps of paper/vanilla pods/pencils to mark each reference.

You can even have four books open on a table top simultaneously. Windowing on a computer partly repro-

duces this slip-through capability, but has one severe drawback: if you split your screen into two windows you only get half as much text in each.

Creating new text reveals more of the micro's drawbacks. Anyone familiar with a word-processing program knows the BIOS syndrome - Blunders Invisible On Screen. Text that looks perfect in glowing green letters turns out once printed to contain vari-

ous errors - some words are repeated, others omitted; the same phrase with only minor variations occurs three or four times in a short passage.

These mistakes are easy to overlook on the VDU and no programme can pick stylistically bad - but perfectly grammatical - repetition of sentence structures.

But the biggest obstruction in the path of the technologist is likely to be human nature. Computers are cold and logical and converge on information in an exact and predictable manner. Not so the human brain.

One of the great joys of reading reference books is the chance distraction thrown up by the strictly alphabetical organization of information. Look up "Australia - gross national product" in an encyclopaedia, and you have a 50/50 chance of stumbling over the mating habits of the

Human nature is biggest obstacle

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Screening through the family pics

Canon says it will begin marketing a filmless still camera that captures images with a computer chip and plays them back over a television screen. The system, which should be on sale by August, will allow a photographer to send pictures over telephone lines and the images can be reproduced using an ink-jet printer. Sony and Hitachi are also expected to enter the market soon. Canon's electronic camera looks and acts much like a conventional 35mm camera, but instead of film, the image is captured on a special kind of chip called a charge-coupled device. The chip passes the signal to a two-inch floppy disk.

Prices are high - the camera alone, without a lens, is over £1,700. Professional photographers could use an electronic camera when there is no other way to get the picture home in time. Noting that news magazines sometimes transport colour film by chartered jet, Canon spokesman Dave Metz said, "This machine costs a lot less than a Lear jet. So it is very practical."

EEC funding sought

"The European Community is spending too much on cows and too little on computers," Peter Bonfield, chairman of ICL, complained last week. He was commenting on the British Government's reluctance to back proposals for additional funding for the EEC's information technology research programmes. But he said this did not mean that European computer companies should merge in one huge corporation, as some EEC officials have proposed, to counter market dominance by the US giant IBM. Britain, backed mainly by its cost-cutting ally West Germany, is opposing proposals by the European Commission significantly to boost spending on new technologies. Commission President Jacques Delors has proposed doubling technology spending to around six per cent of the budget, compared to over two thirds spent on farm subsidies.

Singapore clampdown

Singapore has enforced stricter controls on militarily sensitive imports following pressure from the United States to ensure they are not passed to the Soviet bloc. Singapore imports goods - mainly computer equipment and electronic components - worth more than £650 million each year which Cocoon, the Coordinating Committee for Multinational Export Controls, classifies as sensitive. It is one of several non-communist countries blacklisted by America for offering inadequate protection to US-made advanced technology goods.

Computerland micro

The retail store chain Computerland has introduced its first private label personal computer system, saying it is compatible with IBM's PC and AT at a cost about 20 per cent less. It has used Tri-Gem, a South Korean computer manufacturer, to make the BC series, which is expected to be available in large quantities in the US by mid-July at a price of £1,000 for the basic version and £2,000 for its AT compatible. Computerland, with more than 800 stores worldwide in 24 countries, needs to make its product stand out from other clones by using its company name to allay customer's concerns about the quality of the machines.

Star Wars contracts

British companies are set to win the lion's share of the European contracts for President Reagan's "Star Wars" programme, a senior Pentagon official said last week. But initial contracts will be worth only £6.5 million, which will disappoint Britain. The Ministry of Defence was reported earlier this month to be hoping to secure contracts worth £25 million. The Pentagon man, speaking at the US Embassy in London on condition he was not named, added that ultimately European contracts could be worth about £1.75 billion, about 10 per cent of the total.



This flying insect-like creature from the realms of science fiction could revolutionize battlefield operations. Computer consultancy Scicon have named their invention Scaarfly - an unmanned observation and attack robot air vehicle. Although only a model at present, it would be packed with highly-advanced electronics and computer systems and could, says the company, become a reality by the year 2010. It sees the futuristic robot, which was on display at an Army equipment exhibition last weekend, as being able to locate, identify and even attack enemy targets without risking loss of personnel, and operate independent of any ground controllers. The Scaarfly would fly at 90 miles per hour, have a range of 100 miles and cost about £50,000.

COMPUTER BRIEFING

Air traffic control hitch

New computers crucial to air safety in America in the 21st century have unwisely been chosen on the basis of tests resembling only 1970's levels of air traffic, according to investigators from the general accounting office of the US Congress. They have produced a report urging the American Federal Aviation Administration not to select a computer manufacturer until more realistic tests based on 1990's traffic projections have been run. There was little evidence, said the report, that systems from either the winner of the £8 billion contract, IBM, or the loser, Sperry, "will perform as needed". The computers will be installed in 20 air traffic centres that handle 15,000 flights per day.

High-margin policy

IBM is expecting flat financial results for the rest of 1986, says the chairman, John Akers. "If business doesn't pick up in the United States, I think IBM will have difficulty showing earnings growth. The US has been dicy and remains dicy," he said last week. Regarding the company's ability to compete with the growing numbers of IBM-compatible personal computers, Akers said the company would continue to differentiate its personal computer line through products and service. But he warned that if parts of the computer industry become "increasingly commodity like" - where price becomes the main factor - you will probably see the IBM company departing from those parts. We are in the business of high margin sales.

Disc directory for Japan

The four thick volumes of Tokyo Yellow pages issued by Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT) will be put on a single compact disc going on sale next year. It will mean that more than one million company references will be available from a central memory within seconds to users of personal computers. The disc, developed with Sony and Philips, is similar to an audio disc introduced in 1982, and the new facility makes use of compact disc read only memory (cd-rom) which uses the huge data storage capacity available with laser scanning technology.

Putting a price on vital knowledge

It may seem something of a truism, but knowledge is an asset. Not too many companies behave as though they actually appreciate this fact, however. Within their organizations there are individuals who know and understand everything about a small part of a company's operations, but that knowledge is usually locked inside their heads.

Getting it out into the open so that others can use it is an increasingly important factor in these competitive days. Locked inside someone's head, knowledge becomes useful only so long as that individual remains working with, and committed to an organization.

Obtaining and storing that knowledge isn't just for the right tools for the job; it also calls for the right individual with the right function within an organization. For a

job of information officer is in the ideal position of being able to select which type of system, both generally and specifically, a company should purchase. This, for example, already revolves around choices such as selecting between a system specifically tailored for its application, or a shell program which the users tailor themselves.

The job of information officer also involves working with the individual experts within a company to ensure that their knowledge is correctly captured in a useable form. Part of this job will inevitably involve solving the worries such individuals will have about their future job prospects. There is already evidence to suggest that some become particularly reluctant to part with their knowledge through the natural fear that doing so will lead to their eventual and inevitable redundancy.

As a counter to this, there is also a growing body of evidence in the US which shows that such experts' status and value can actually be enhanced by expert systems - because, the argument goes, the systems can be used to perform tasks of relatively low complexity, thus freeing human experts to concentrate on more difficult problems.

At present, though many companies may appreciate the asset value of the knowledge they hold, there is no way of quantifying it to the point where it can appear in the balance sheet, except perhaps as the arbitrary goodwill in the sale price of a going concern.

Such a quantification may come from an information officer's ability to make it transparent, debuggable, permanent and distributable. As one wit at a recent artificial intelligence seminar put it: "Companies often can't quantify knowledge until they screw-up". The size and cost of the screw-up equals an exact value of the knowledge required. And if that knowledge was found by an information officer to have been in the company already, then he would have earned his pay, even if a little belatedly.

JOB SCENE

By Martin Banks

small but increasing number of companies, especially in the US, that job is falling to the chief information officer. It is not a new job function for many large companies, especially those in advanced engineering such as electronics or aerospace. Traditionally, such people have been the keepers of company libraries where the learned journals and technical papers are accrued.

Today, however, the job entails much more. Not only is much of the library material now held on computers, with access controlled via database management systems, but the information officer also has the new role of finding, extracting and storing the knowledge of individual experts within a company so that it is available for others.

The information officer is fast becoming one of the key individuals in the use and exploitation of expert systems, directly involved in establishing the environment for such systems within a company and selecting which are suitable tools for the company to utilize. Expert systems themselves are just now starting to appear

This is your life, and all on a plastic card

By David Gaest

The tendency of technology to run ahead of society's ability to control it is amply illustrated by a device that could soon become commonplace.

The Drexler laser card, which as of last week numbers Olivetti among its 23 likely suppliers, is a bank-card sized piece of plastic capable of storing enormous volumes of personal data.

Unless different agencies issue separate cards, each with 95 per cent of the space vacant, a laser card will say more about you than money ever could. The technology involved is already impressive and it will certainly be refined.

It is intended to be carried around, but people who do so may be vulnerable on two counts. The first is straightforward theft. Peter Jenner, a senior consultant with PA Computers and Telecommunications, says information should only be stored on laser cards in code.

He points out that one card is capable of holding two million characters of information - about 500 pages of type, a substantial autobiography. But whereas the cards represent technology at its most baffling, card-reading devices are small, with the dimensions of a tape-cassette recorder, and they plug into ordinary, personal computers.

Cards holding medical data, bank account records or other personal information could be a gold mine to a moderately enterprising criminal.

Security is an issue throughout the computer industry and encryption - where only those who hold the key can use the data - is a clear requirement for this type of storage medium. But encryption puts prices up and when suppliers are trying to establish themselves in a new market it can become a disagreeable feature.

The cards may hold part of the answer. Because of their capacity, digitized renderings of the card-holder's signature, picture, and even fingerprint can be held without taking much more than five per cent of the available space.

The signature occupies 2,000 to 5,000 characters, the picture 10,000 to 50,000, and the fingerprint 5,000 to 10,000. These could be used to authenticate transactions involving the card. But the relentless drive for progress will increase the security problem.

Mr Jenner said: "These are early days. Once the readers become commonplace you will have things like phone links. As hackers have shown, telephone lines are tunnels under the fortifications of computer systems. The laser card's inventor, Drexler Technology of Cali-

fornia, sees the less sensitive technique of electronic publishing as one of the card's main uses, and Robert Maxwell's British Printing and Communications is one of the licensees.

But the other major user Drexler picks out is highly sensitive - for medical data - and a spokesman said that law enforcement agencies were interested in the cards as, for example, driver's licences.

There has always been the possibility of this type of card becoming a kind of back-door identity card or internal passport. An ordinary credit card can provide a simple record of its holder's movements, but a laser card could theoretically combine this with credit ratings, records of motoring and perhaps of other offences, and medical records.

The card is as slim as a bank card, can withstand being flexed, and needs only a paper sleeve for protection. Drexler looks forward to cards that will have five times the capacity of its present model and to card-readers that will operate much more quickly than those in use now.

Although more expensive to produce than bank cards, its capacity already makes it much cheaper in the volume of information it holds. Many of the world's leading technology companies are committed to ensuring that it happens.

COMPUTER APPOINTMENTS

Advertisement for ICL featuring various job openings for computer professionals, including roles like Analyst/Programmers, Systems Analysts, and Network Systems, with details on salary and location.

Advertisement for IBM Personal Computer, £1090, highlighting features like 360k disk drives, parallel printer adaptor, and keyboard.

Advertisement for Wright Air Conditioning, offering services for computer rooms and general air conditioning.

Advertisement for Compaq, featuring 6 new models of portable and desktop computers.

Large vertical advertisement for EGA technology, featuring the text 'EGA TECHNOLOGY' and 'The Limits'.

Our Concorde flight winners



Winners of The Times/DEC competition pictured at the race airfield: they are (from left to right) Peter Matthews, Jennifer McParland, Sandra Coventry, Claire Robertson, Malcolm Cutting and Alastair Macmillan

Jennifer McParland, a computing assistant from Leicester, is the overall winner in our six week series of competitions linked to the DEC Schneider Air Race. She won the first prize of a weekend for two in New York with return flights on Concorde.

Her winning tie-breaker was "The advent of computer-aided design and modern technology have made speed trials obsolete".

All of the six weekly winners and their partners were at last weekend's air race at the Isle of Wight as guests of Digital Equipment and attended a gala dinner on Saturday night where the winner of the first prize was announced.

The other winning competitors Alastair Macmillan, a London public relations director; Claire Robertson, a dental surgeon from Muswell Hill in London; Malcolm Cutting, a self-employed London computer consultant; Peter Matthews, an ex-Spitfire pilot and deputy head of the Central School of Art and Design and Sandra Coventry, a systems support manager from Surbiton, Surrey received their prizes of Concorde Champagne trips for two. They are hoping to take the trip all together in November.

A short sharp shock for the software brigade

The British computer software industry, whose performance has been applauded by many an industry minister in the past and deemed to be an example of enterprise worthy of emulation, came under fire last week. The industry was not performing sufficiently well to obtain its proper market share in the face of fierce competition from the Japanese and the Americans and is unable to prevent foreign software from making a substantial impact on the UK market.

The British software industry is in desperate trouble. A creeping annual trade deficit of £200 million three years ago is now rising in such proportions that it will reach £2,000 million by the end of the decade unless drastic measures are taken.

Year 1982 British businesses were inundated with information on every aspect of IT, both hardware and software. They were left in no doubt from the mountains of publicity material that IT would touch every business in the UK, from manufacturing to service industries.

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone
Technology Correspondent

million with the UK representing 5 per cent of the total. But Britain is not holding its own, and has only 2-3 per cent of the world market. That share is largely made up of half of the UK market and only 0.5 per cent from the rest of the world.

The ACARD argument cannot be challenged but it is a creed which has been preached in the last four years by DTI advisors to government, ITAP (Information Technology Advisory Panel), the House of Lords, the TUC, government backbenchers and both opposition parties in the House of Commons.



Sir Francis Tombs: Chairman of ACARD hoping for effective action

COMPUTER APPOINTMENTS

Too many vacancies to list....

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Call David Harvey

PL-1 and/or ASSEMBLER
Positions from Junior Programmers with c.12 months experience to Senior Analyst/Programmers and Systems Designers are many and varied. Financial institutions (see Banks, Insurance Companies and Finance Houses) and Industrial/Commercial concerns are seeking professional staff with experience of IBM DOS or MVS systems with retaining in online systems and progression into Analysis and Systems Design. Some excellent benefits packages are available within the financial sector.
Call Bruce Harrington

HP3000
Many positions exist NATIONALLY. These include Programmers, Analysts/Programmers, Team Leaders and Project Managers. At Programmer level you should have at least 6 MONTHS COBOL or APL on an HP3000. The more senior positions require a minimum of 18 MONTHS HP3000 experience preferably with 3 or more years experience in D.P. We are interested in hearing from experienced candidates who have knowledge of any two of the following: COBOL, POWERHOUSE (QUICK, QUZ, QTP), TRANSACT, SPEEDWARE PRODUCTS, IMAGE, ASK, VIEWPLUS, ADAGER, RAPID, PROLOG, QUERY, INSIGHT, SYDNEY, MPEX, SPL, MAJ3000, HPFA, PAK3000, COOL or MS. RETRAINING is offered with most positions.
Call Jim Christie

TANDEM
Skills gained on TANDEM equipment are sought by companies as diverse as Banks, Software Houses and Manufacturers. The jobs include TECHNICAL/CUSTOMER SUPPORT, BUSINESS/SYSTEMS ANALYSIS, PROGRAMMERS, SYSTEMS PROGRAMMERS and PRE- & POST-SALES CONSULTANTS. The Consultancy and Sales Support positions include company cars in the package. If you have 12 months or 20 years experience then please call Jim Harvey.
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Programmers and Analyst/Programmers with an average of 12 months knowledge of DOS/IMS or DOS/VS/VM systems on IBM 4300 or 3800 machines are required in all sectors of industry and commerce. Experience of online/database systems e.g. CICS/DB-1 or IMS DB/DC or any other software, is highly sought but most companies have excellent training and on-site or external training facilities. Positions exist in Banking, Consultancy, Industry and all areas of Commercial business.
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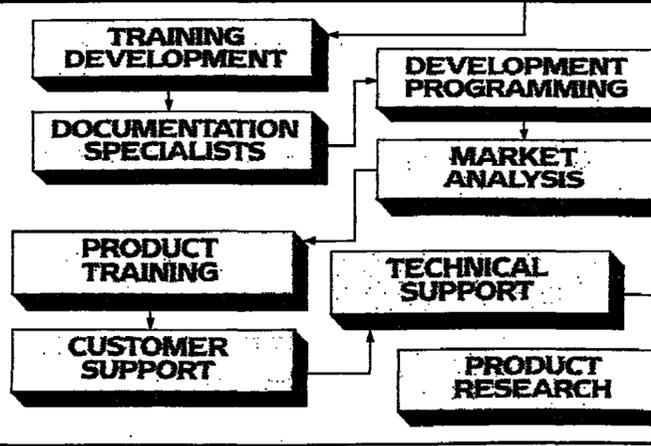
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METIER

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the advertisement.

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The Financial Services and Trust Division of Lloyds Bank Plc has a vacancy at management level within the Legal Section of its Chief Office at Haywards Heath.

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Applications, quoting qualifications, age and experience should be sent to:

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Lloyds Bank Plc
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Magistrates' Court, Bishopgate, NORWICH, NR3 1UP.

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Please send full curriculum vitae, in confidence, to:

Nicholas Hills,
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Applicants must be admitted Solicitors. Previous Local Government experience is not necessary. A car allowance will be payable.

Applicants must be admitted Solicitors. Previous Local Government experience is not necessary. A car allowance will be payable.

Application forms and further details from County Personnel Officer, County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1LX. Tel: Chelmsford (0245) 267222 Ext: 2017. Closing date: 11 July 1986.



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Offshore Company staffed by English Lawyers and Marine Casualty Investigators wishes to recruit an assistant to work in Piraeus, Greece. The Company operates as an International Legal and Commercial Consultancy, predominantly to the shipping industry. Solicitors, Barristers, and Claims Executives with relevant experience are invited to apply.

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Tel: 01-571 2228. Fax: 01-740 1229

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New Law Journal, published by Butterworths, the largest-selling paid-for legal journal in the UK. It aims in each of its weekly issues to give a comprehensive coverage of developments in the UK legal world (and in the EEC) in the form of articles, parliamentary and case notes, and leader comment. Whilst the NJL aims to be provocative and refreshing, it remains essentially non-political.

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Application forms for the above post quoting reference number REF: LA/14/15X available from:
The Personnel Division, Civic Centre, Huddersfield, Middlesex, UB8 3JW. Telephone: Uxbridge 56389 (24 hour answering service available). Closing date: 11 July 1986. Applications from disabled persons will be welcomed.



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This is a challenging opportunity for an able Solicitor to gain an insight into a wide variety of local authority activities. Applications should have approximately three years post-qualification experience: a knowledge of one or more of the specific areas of responsibility would be an advantage.

Applications forms and further details from Director of Administration and Legal Services, P.O. Box 2, Town Hall, High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1DD - telephone 01-478 3020 extension 106 (answering service) - quoting reference AL 128 - to be returned by 11 July 1986.

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LEGAL APPOINTMENTS
ALSO APPEAR ON
PAGE 12

Handwritten signature: J.P. Collins

RACING: KINGSCLEERE FILLY TO MAKE EXPERIENCE TELL AGAINST WELL-BRED NEWCOMERS

Hold On Please fancied to fulfil promise of Salisbury debut

Twelve months ago Ian Balding sent Aliata north from Kingscleere to Pontefract to land the odds in the EBF Thorne Maiden Fillies' Stakes.

Now, following that promising initial run at Salisbury three weeks ago, Hold On Please is napped to follow in her footsteps.

Course specialists

BRIGHTON TRAINERS: L Curran, 8 winners from 29 runners, 40.7%.

PONTEFRAC TRAINERS: G Harwood, 9 winners from 29 runners, 42.8%.

Lingfield and Redcar already Easy Day is taken to win the Plaster Thermalbond Handicap.

Kathy W. a well-bred filly from Henry Cecil's powerful yard, won first time at Leicester and she is the reason for Steve Cautley's journey north.



Rosedale (Willie Carson), who found Family Friend a length too good for him in the Prix de l'Esperance last time out, can win the group two Premio Principe Amedeo at Turin this afternoon.

At Brighton, Fleetling Affair has a good chance of remaining unbeaten in the Operatic Society Challenge Cup even though he is opposed by Heart Of Stone, who beat State Budget by seven lengths at Lingfield.

Those who follow course specialists will be on Fast Service to a man in the Mid-Sussex Licensed Victuallers National Homes Handicap.

Finally, Soon To Be is selected for the Marine Handicap following her encouraging run at Epsom on Derby day when she finished fifth in the race won by Mazzi.

Blinkered first time

The impressive Epsom winner, Sultan Mohammed, who is taken to get the better of Chinoiserie in the Lewes Stakes (2.30) at Brighton today.

Rosedale to take group two prize

Rosedale (Willie Carson), who found Family Friend a length too good for him in the Prix de l'Esperance last time out, can win the group two Premio Principe Amedeo at Turin this afternoon.

Yves Saint-Martin, who returned to the saddle after injury when finishing fourth in Sunday's Swiss Derby, was back among the winners at Maisons-Laffitte yesterday.

Dawn Run (Michel Chiro) and Grey Brief (Peter Scudamore) will have a maximum of seven opponents in the Grande Course de Haies d'Autueil on Friday.

Philip Wakron won the Austrian Derby at Vienna on Sunday, Waldron rode Zimtal to a half-length success for the German trainer, Klaus Heinke.

Philip Wakron won the Austrian Derby at Vienna on Sunday, Waldron rode Zimtal to a half-length success for the German trainer, Klaus Heinke.

John Reid was a close third on Falstaff.

Hearts overrule heads as Scots plump for Wells

Allan Wells, the 1980 Olympic 100 metres champion, was yesterday given a reprieve by Scotland selectors. Although he has not competed since withdrawing from the 1982 Olympic 100 metres semi-finals, his name appears in the Commonwealth Games team.

Now 34, Wells is still a big draw in Scotland. The selectors seem to have let their hearts rule their heads by choosing him for the 100 metres along with Elliott Bunney and Jamie Henderson.

Wells has been given until July 5 to prove his fitness along with Lindsey Macdonald, who as a teenager reached the Moscow Olympic 400 metres final.

Christie Prince, aged 33, is selected for the 10,000 metres and is the only choice surviving from the 1970 Games team.

One of the runners forced to drop out of the controversial United Kingdom championship

Two members of the team who missed the championships through illness are Paul Easter (Swansea), who has been troubled with a virus, and Stephanie Watson, of Paisley, Robin Brew (Maxwell), the British team captain, is joined in the team by his younger brother Paul.

SCOTTISH TEAM FOR EDINBURGH

ATHLETICS: Men: 100m: E Bunney, J Henderson, A Wells (all Edinburgh Scottish Harriers); 200m: C Sherriff (Sheffield Harriers); 400m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 800m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 1,500m: A Currie (Dunbarrow A.C.); 2,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 3,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 4,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 5,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 6,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 7,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 8,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 9,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 10,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 15,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 20,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 30,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 40,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 50,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 60,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 70,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 80,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 90,000m: J Macdonald (Sheffield Harriers); 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FOOTBALL: AMID ENGLAND'S LEAGUES OF INDUSTRIOUS WORKERS, THE COLOURFUL ARTIST WITHERS

Fate forced changes that restored honour

England need men like Charlton, Peters and Bell

From Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent, Mexico City

From David Miller, Mexico City

England reached a position of respectability in the world, but could climb no higher. The nineteenth side to leave the competition, they returned home yesterday morning carrying with them their heart and their character, qualities which remained unbroken throughout the lengthy tour of seven weeks, as well as some credit they collected along the way.

Even though the path they followed to the last eight in the World Cup was wildly erratic, that much was predictable. Bobby Robson's squad, bound together increasingly tightly over the last year, was never likely to let down either him or the nation on their travels across Mexico. Nor did they.

Some may say that they flew on the wings of misfortune. To some extent, that is justifiable. Lineker's accident in Vancouver inhibited his opening performances against Portugal and Morocco but his resurgence, which was attained so dramatically that he may yet finish as the tournament's leading goalscorer, was in the end irrelevant.

The injuries that limited Bryan Robson's contribution on the pitch to less than two hours were significant. The captain was thought to be the one irreplaceable member of the team. And there is no doubt that England missed his presence, particularly against Argentina on Sunday. Yet it was after he had departed that the side's fortunes altered.



Maradona: Arms raised again, but this time in celebration after victory over England (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

To compete effectively with the elite, England must either be adaptable, which they are not, or strengthen their unique style with outstanding individuals. In 1966 and in 1970, Banks, Moore and Bobby Charlton lifted them above the ordinary. Neither Ron Greenwood's side in Spain four years ago, nor Robson's here, contained enough similarly influential figures.

Shilton maintained his place as arguably the best goalkeeper in the world, especially against the Paraguayans, in a tournament that has been notable for the high standard of the men wearing comically large gloves. Lineker, once he had recovered from his severely sprained wrist, also enhanced his reputation as a marksman of fine precision.

Below requirements in England's hour and a half of need. They were made to pay for it by Argentina in general, and by their astonishing captain in particular. Steven, Hodge and Beardsley, youngsters who had played more than an adequate role in England's progress; Reid, who was not fully fit, and, sadly, the gifted Hoddle were all found wanting. So was Fenwick, thrust at the last moment into the central defensive position that was always likely to cause most concern.

Robson, philosophical in his disappointment, was equally diplomatic when asked whether he was considering resignation. "My future will be decided not by me but by the international committee," he said. Bert Millichip, the chairman of the Football Association, later stated that he and his colleagues would not be considering ending Robson's contract which has a year to run.

Robson himself admitted that the opening two years of his managerial career had been "awkward", and he offered the thought that the Football Association might follow the West German example and appoint a successor to work alongside him and learn the job before taking over. That would seem a sensible enough suggestion.

To expect the FA to make such a move would be wildly optimistic. Yet, unless both measures are taken, England cannot hope realistically to stand on top of the world until the final is again staged at Wembley.

As Brazil go home, like a jazz band packing away their instruments at the end of an all-night party you hoped would never end, they have far more justification than England for feeling they deserved to be in the semi-final of the World Cup. They have been not only with France, the most entertaining of teams, but the most likely to create and score goals. They are genuine lions. England may argue about luck and referees, but they were outplayed for an hour by the first good team they met.

At the level to which Brazil had so rapidly expanded in five matches over three weeks, they could have been expected to defeat seven times out of 10, the four remaining teams, including France, who eliminated them on penalties. By contrast, England, I believe, would have been harried to beat any of them four times out of 10, if one may reduce probability to such simple terms.

Argentina always calling the tune. There is an unmistakable difference between England and the others, including some of those eliminated teams, such as Denmark, the Soviet Union, Spain and Uruguay, to which I have previously referred. It is the flexibility which they all have in their positional play, especially in midfield. England's rigidity was particularly exposed in that first hour by Argentina.

England go home with a feeling that they had let Argentina on the run in the last 20 minutes, yet that late improvement came largely by courtesy of Argentina's decision, unwise as it was, to sit on a two-goal lead, thereby surrendering tactical initiatives. While the basic platform of superiority within the match was being disrupted, Argentina were always calling the tune.

The likelihood would be that against most of the better half-dozen teams, England would experience the same problems. Whether the more positive ones such as Brazil, France, Russia and Denmark, or the containing teams such as Bulgaria, Spain, Uruguay and Italy.

This is not to say that English football is inherently inferior, only that, as Bobby Robson admitted after defeat, the style in which football is played in the Football League inhibits the international team. The World Cup environment, England will always be likely, with their direct style, to dispose of lesser teams by several goals, and they did in establishing their unassailable record over the past year. Against teams which do not let them get at the ball, such as Argentina, they will tend to struggle.

It is an accident that the teams who have reached the semi-finals are there. West Germany, who arrived in some disarray, are in the semi-finals for the seventh time in nine competitions, not because they produce anything like as many outstanding players as, say, Brazil or Yugoslavia, but because their domestic football is performed at such a consistently high level of technical and mental coordination. Two victories, two finals, three semi-finals and two quarter-finals, with one of those semi-finals still to be played, is unassailable evidence. I should have known better than to doubt them at the start.

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MEXICO 86

England's domestic programme, physically by far the most demanding in the world, does not have room for such genius. The League fixture list is so unreasonably long and arduous that it breeds industrious workers rather than colourful artists. Even the likes of Maradona would doubtless pale into relative insignificance in such circumstances. The rest of the world still remains in awe of English clubs at play. They are beset by the unremitting pace, the ferocious commitment and the comparative excitement of the matches they see on television. But such qualities are not so relevant on the global stage, and particularly in the burning heat and the rarified atmosphere of Mexico.

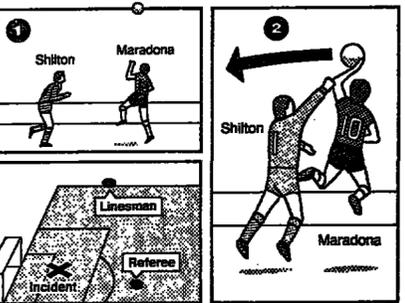
Nor does the domestic game cater for sophistication. Crowds at home are fed a steady diet of go-ahead incidents, of rugged determination and of ceaseless running. The idea of watching a sweeper tidying up behind a defence, of a line of five operating in midfield and of a lone figure leading the attack would be unpalatable to the English taste.

Man in the middle of politics

From David Miller, Mexico City

All Bannauer, of Tunisia, a referee of relative international experience, was appointed by the FIFA referees' committee to the World Cup quarter-final between England and Argentina because he was neutral. The committee was concerned, according to Harry Cavan, its chairman from Northern Ireland, not to appoint a European or South American to a match of political sensitivity. An Asian or an African was the alternative, and Bannauer was considered the most suitable available from the panel of 36.

The irony of this decision, and of Bannauer's error of omission in not detecting that the first goal was scored by Maradona with his hands, was that the selection of the referees for the final tournament was made on a political basis. A single referee was nominated from 36 different countries for political diplomacy because, as FIFA's president, Joao Havelange, has stated: "We have to consider the smaller countries, like it or not."



Sleight of hand: the controversial moment when Maradona gave Argentina a helping hand in their victory over England

Junior international tournament in the Soviet Union last year. He could have expected more assistance than his linesman, Bogdan Dotschev, of Bulgaria, himself a FIFA referee, as are all the linesmen who are drawn from the panel of 36. Dotschev was placed in a not perfect but reasonable position to have seen the ball handled.

Bannauer's subsidiary error was not to consult Dotschev when England's defender protested that the ball had been handled into the net. Several of the lesser experienced referees here have made this mistake. Bannauer, of Australia, an English emigrant, increased the criticism of his denial of a goal for Brazil against Spain in the first round, when a shot hit the crossbar and bounced behind the lines, when he refused to consult his linesman, Secha, of the United States. There is a tendency by the inexperienced referee to try not to be seen to be in doubt.

The standard has in fact improved since the first round, when excessive fouling and obstruction was being tolerated, and some referees, such as Sanchez, of Spain, in the Argentina-South Korea match, were almost overwhelmed. By the second round, the level of intervention had risen, and the weaker referees, such as Takada, of Japan, and Marquez, of Mexico, had been eliminated. Until Bannauer's error there had been little in the second round of quarter-finals to complain about.

Belgium casting a shadow

From Clive White, Praha

Belgium remind me of a top weight handicapper with no form to show of late, but plenty of class. Their late run on the semi-final round hovers like a forbidding shadow over the champions. Belgium's negative contribution to the advance of the game in the 1980 European championship has not been forgotten nor forgiven and the prospect of a repeat of that final against West Germany is enough to force Pele and Bobby Charlton to hang up their microphones.

Belgium have suddenly rediscovered the qualities which made them great to the detriment of all others in their victory over Spain by 5-0 on penalties at Puebla on Sunday evening. Belgium once again looked the master technicians, the prudent counter-attacking side, the level of calculating victory over Spain by 5-0 on penalties at Puebla on Sunday evening. Belgium once again looked the master technicians, the prudent counter-attacking side, the level of calculating victory over Spain by 5-0 on penalties at Puebla on Sunday evening.

Spain, having done more than enough to win on points, had to wait until the 84th minute when an inspired volley from nearly 30 yards by Señor, a substitute, equalized Ceulemans's first-half headed goal. But having made a single effort to force extra time they had nothing left to give, physically or mentally against opposition whom they found deeply frustrating and unwilling to exchange punches head to head as Denmark had been.

Argentina always calling the tune

There is an unmistakable difference between England and the others, including some of those eliminated teams, such as Denmark, the Soviet Union, Spain and Uruguay, to which I have previously referred. It is the flexibility which they all have in their positional play, especially in midfield. England's rigidity was particularly exposed in that first hour by Argentina.

England go home with a feeling that they had let Argentina on the run in the last 20 minutes, yet that late improvement came largely by courtesy of Argentina's decision, unwise as it was, to sit on a two-goal lead, thereby surrendering tactical initiatives. While the basic platform of superiority within the match was being disrupted, Argentina were always calling the tune.

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Outmanoeuvred in midfield

The traditional way for English footballers to get out of a jam is to hit a long ball, and hope. The successful teams here are playing their way out of a jam with a variety of field triangles. The system can be seen at one club in England: West Ham.

Not one of the semi-finalists plays with a winger. Muller was often wide for Brazil, and Litarzki is for Germany. Modern defensive organization has killed the genuine winger. Ramsey simultaneously discovered that truth and propagated it. The sobering thought is that if England had started against Argentina with Barnes or Waddle, they would probably have lost by more than 2-1. There is the paradox that Hoddle can exploit a winger, but himself becomes tactically vulnerable in a team using a winger. Even in a midfield line of four on Sunday he was now smothered and smothered.

Sunday's results

Table showing football results for Sunday, June 23, 1986. Columns include match details, scores, and goalscorers.

ENTERTAINMENTS

A large advertisement section for entertainments, including art galleries, cinemas, libraries, and educational institutions. It lists various venues, showtimes, and prices.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page, possibly a signature or a note: 'السلامة والسلامة'.

